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**BOBO BRAZIL-PAYING
FOR DUSTY RHODES' SINS**

May 1981

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Wrestling

***Hussein Arab vs. Ivan Koloff:*
A BLOODY WAR
EXPLODES IN A
NEUTRAL COUNTRY**

***On-The-Scene Coverage*
DAVID VON ERICH
CHALLENGES HARLEY RACE
*For The NWA Title***

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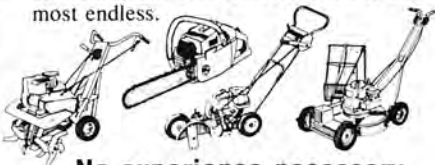
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Peter
King
Editor-in-Chief

This has been quite a month for wrestling news. Titles have changed hands, some superstars have fallen, and last year's rookies are on their way to the top. In this month's column, let's take a closer look at some of the top headlines.

HEADLINE: PIPER DEFEATS FLAIR FOR U.S. TITLE

This seems to be, at first glance, a stunning upset. But I believe two factors were involved in the decision. First, Roddy Piper has been a very underrated wrestler for years. He is just now coming into his prime. Second, Ric Flair was scheduled to defend his U.S. title against Greg Valentine a week after the Piper match. I believe this was a typical instance of something that occurs a great deal in professional sports--Flair was ignoring the Piper match and looking ahead to the Valentine bout. I expect Flair to overwhelm Piper the next time they wrestle.

HEADLINE: GAREA AND MARTEL TURN BACK THE MOONDOGS

A pleasant surprise. Most fans believed Lou Albano's Moondogs would take Garea and Martel's WWF tag team title. After all, Albano's record as a manager in tag team title matches is the best in wrestling history. But I think the Captain is having some trouble with his latest team. The combination simply isn't following orders. Their teamwork is very sloppy. And Albano is as confused as I've ever seen him. Not only that, but now I hear a rumor that Albano is worried about his safety. He just saw the movie, "They Always Turn On Their Masters," and he is beginning to wonder if it will happen to him.

HEADLINE: BACKLUND MAKES 1,000th WWF TITLE DEFENSE

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INCREASINGLY, THE COMPLEXITIES of the plot overwhelm me. As I drove into Florida, I tried to gather all the twisting, puzzling strings which dangled across oceans and continents.

Already, Stu Saks, Matt Brock, and I learned large sums of money had been funneled to Hussein Arab from a large Middle Eastern electronics firm. This money made

a brief stop in West Germany, where Baron Von Raschke's name was somehow involved. Further, Stu learned Von Raschke met with Soviet citizens in West Germany. Von Raschke was plotting against Bugsy McGraw. Were Von Raschke and Arab involved in the same plot? Why Arab, when he was fighting Ivan Koloff and Russians apparently were involved in the plot? Or were the Russians acting privately, without the encouragement or protection of their government?

So when my top Florida source, T.G. Nathan, called me from West Palm Beach and insisted in a desperate, screeching tone, I immediately get down to Florida to investigate what he called "strange doings," I left without question.

Normally a calm, gentle man, T.G. Nathan resembled a neurotic raccoon as he gyrated around the house. Every time I attempted

(Continued on page 58)



Lord Al Hays accompanies The Sheik to the ring (above) for his match against Dusty Rhodes. In accordance with prematch stipulation, Hays is in no position to lend physical help to his wrestler (below). The question of importance remains, what is The Sheik doing in Florida in the first place?



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TOP SECRET

Behind the Dressing Room Door

by Stu
Saks

RINGSIDE, RICHMOND COLISEUM—Talk about unusual assignments. I am sitting about four rows from the ring. Normally, I would be in the press row directly in front of the ring, but this time I am not here to report on the matches. I'm here to report on a spectator. Leave it to Peter King's imagination.

The arena fills with boos as Swede Hanson slowly makes his way toward the ring. Seconds later his opponent gallops down the aisle, leaps upon the ring apron, and into the ring. A broad smile on his face, his hands held high in the air, the young man jumps up and down as the fans cheer wildly.

My attention turns toward the spectator I am assigned to observe. Bruno Sammartino sits stoically in the front row. He does not cheer for his son, Bruno Sammartino Jr.; he just watches intently.

The more I think about it, the better I like this assignment. For many years to come, I will have the opportunity to report on Bruno Sammartino Jr.'s matches. But these are precious times for Bruno Sammartino Sr. He is seeing his son turn from a boy to a man. And he is seeing the metamorphosis take place in the same setting that his took place—the wrestling ring.

Now I understand why Peter set me up in the fourth row instead of along the press table. Bruno would undoubtedly see me staring at him from the press row, but this way he has no idea he's being observed.

The bell sounds and Hanson immediately tries to catch

(Continued on page 49)

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By Dan Shocket

THE CLOCK SAYS it'll be dawn in a couple of hours. Right now the world is shrouded in its deepest darkness. This column could only be written in blackness. The quiet night is shattered by the sounds inside my mind.

I've just returned from watching Ivan Koloff wrestle Hussein Arab. The match has been over for hours but I've been walking aimlessly for too long a time. You can read about the match elsewhere in this magazine. But only in this

column will you read the sorrow of it.

In a sane world, Koloff and Arab would never wrestle each other, except perhaps in the joyous spirit of competing brothers. They are too much alike, believing in all the same things, for them to hate each other. The pair should be banded together, making wrestling what they both believe it should be. Unhappily, in this world of pride and anger, there is little sanity.

Their feud is the result of

slights that became insults, misunderstandings that became ultimatums, indignities that became too great to bare. If only one of them had remained calm, this feud would have been avoided.

Yet, that would perhaps be asking too much. Considering the pressures both men are under, it's a miracle they can function at all. The same circumstances that brought them together were destined to tear them apart.

As everyone knows, Arab is Iranian and Koloff is Russian. In America today, those two nationalities are about as welcome as the plague. The pair was brought together because they shared the same sense of isolation. They had to defend their heritages as well as themselves.

Those who know the pair realize the situation was ridiculous. Neither man cares anything about politics. They are interested in wrestling and wrestling alone. They may as well be considered men without countries, for their only real

(Continued on page 64)



INSIDE WRESTLING'S Bill Apter was in the right place at the right time to capture this exclusive of Hussein Arab and Ivan Koloff nearly coming to blows in the dressing room. This feud disturbs Dan Shocket greatly.

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A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

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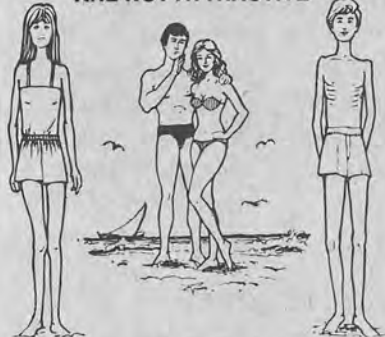
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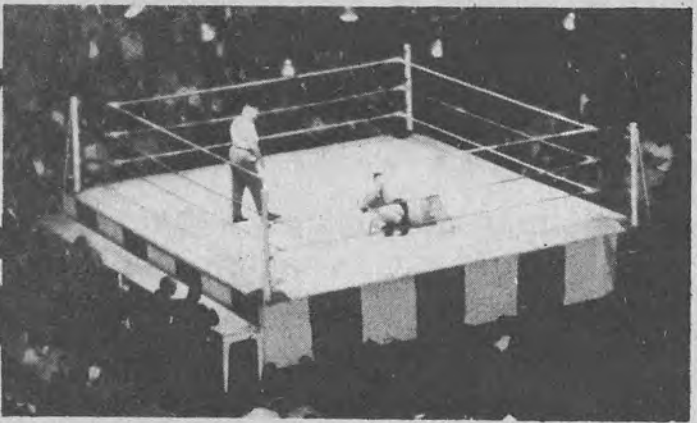
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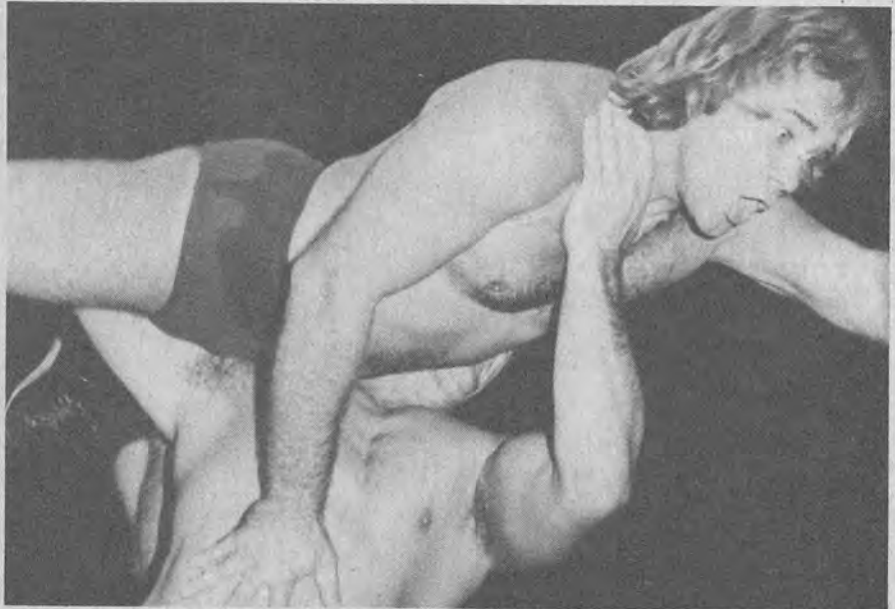
I read your magazine's articles on Tommy Rich and I don't think you are giving him much credit. He was given a dirty deal. The wrestlers here were friends to his face then stabbed him in the back. They are all jealous.

Tommy has the ability to be anything he wants to be. I'm



Many of Tommy Rich's fans stood behind their favorite even during Tommy's brief period as a rulebreaker. Among the more outspoken, reader Kathy Strut feels that Tommy has not received the treatment he deserves.

standing behind him 100 percent, good or bad. He was cheated every way in the world to keep him from beating Harley Race and now they are handing the opportunity to Tony Atlas on a silver platter. Tommy didn't receive the right treatment from anyone. I hope Tommy returns to Georgia very soon and shows



Who is to blame for the breakup of the close friendship of Larry Zbyszko and Tony Garea? Readers Brian Shaffer and Rose Guillory disagree. Garea has the better of the battle (above).

the wrestlers here that he is the very best. Give Tommy the credit he deserves.

KATHY STRUT
Atlanta, GA

NEWS FOR DAN

While reading Dan Shocket's column in your February 1981 issue, I almost got sick. It's about time you get some facts before shooting off your big mouth, Dan. After Larry Zbyszko attacked Bruno Sammartino, it was Tony Garea who tried to understand Larry's position ("One On One"/June 1980). It was Tony who came all the way to the WWF to actually see Larry for himself. It was also Tony who sat and watched Larry wrestle live and still wanted to work

things out with him. But it was Larry who came out and attacked Tony Garea. Tony went out of his way to stay friends with Larry Zbyszko. Larry is the traitor, not Tony.

However, being a traitor is a subject you are qualified on. You are in no position to put other people down for being a traitor. You are the biggest one of all. So get some facts straight and stop making an idiot of yourself.

BRIAN SHAFFER
Mechanicsburg, PA

DAN IS RIGHT!

I completely agree with what you said about Tony Garea turning on Larry Zbyszko. Tony didn't have to take a 90-degree

(Continued on page 50)

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"MAN GROWS to 40 and sometimes 50" according to late Curator of Physical Anthropology of the Smithsonian Institute. Some facts recently confirmed by Washington Doctor.

"The Influence of Exercise on Growth" revealed by U.S. Surgeon (From the Journal of Experimental Medicine) A controlled group experiment.

"GAINS IN HEIGHT and weight as a result of experiments on boys from 12 to 17." Studies in Physical Development and Posture. (From U.S. Public Health Bulletin.)

Mr. C.A. claims and testifies to HEIGHT INCREASE of 1" at age of 54.

Mr. A.S. writes to leading newspaper how father INCREASED HEIGHT by 1 1/2".

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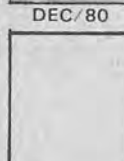
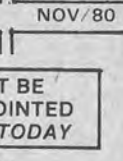
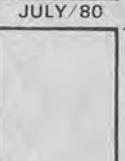
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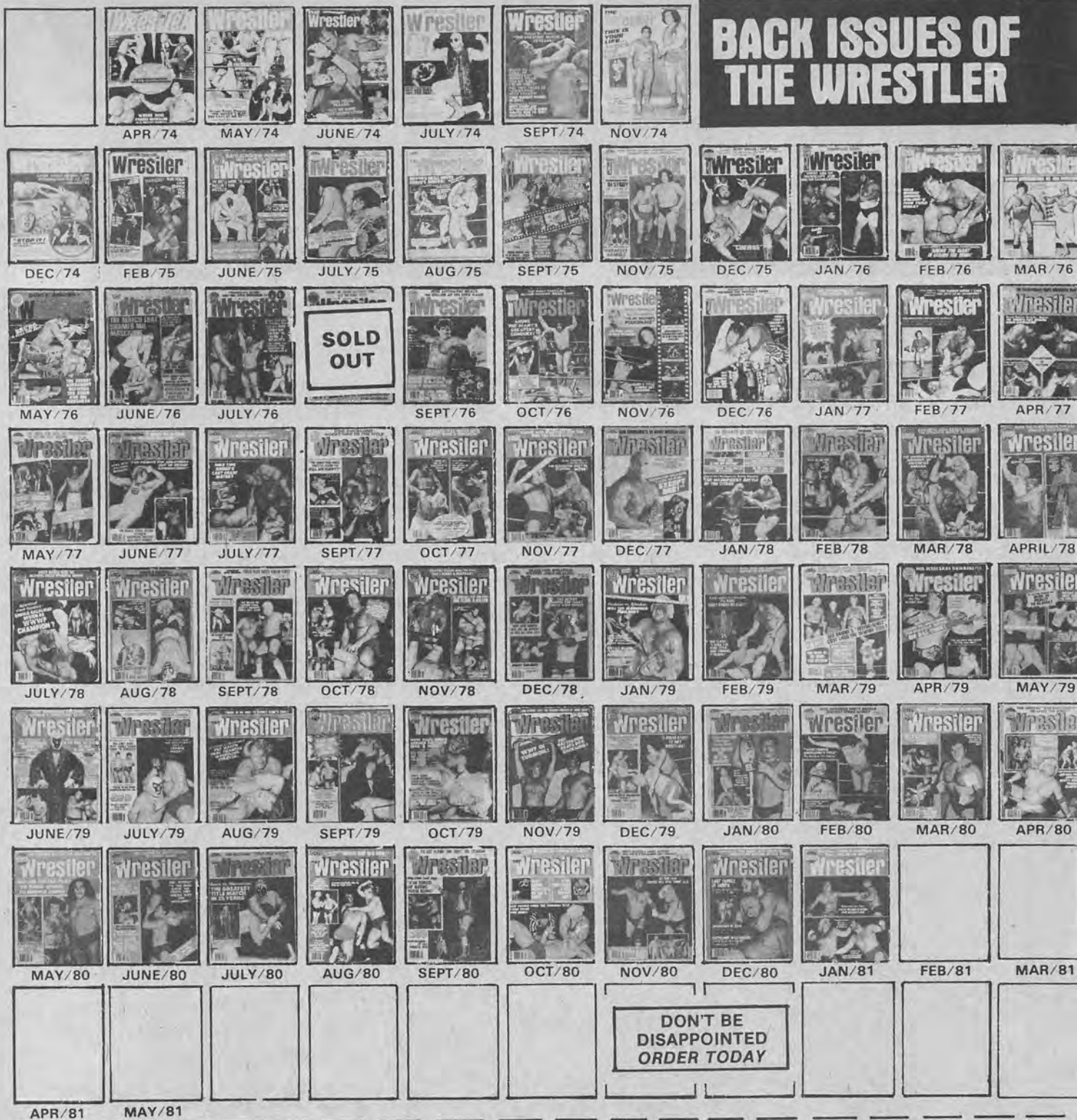
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THE INSIDER

By STEVEN FARHOOD

SCOOP OF THE MONTH

The Grand Wizard of Wrestling is shaking the very foundation of the sport by signing his wrestlers to incredible contracts and tossing around thousands of dollars as if the money was Monopoly currency!

"The Wiz has gone crazy," said one reliable source, a close

very financial structure of the sport."

I checked out the source's facts concerning Slaughter's contract, and everything is true. Suffice to say Slaughter is now making the kind of money most wrestlers—even the best in the world—only dream about.

"And Wiz is carrying this briefcase full of hundred dollar bills lately," the source continued. "He'll open it and

Wiz recently passed away and left him a fortune. Another rumor has it that the bucks are coming from illegal sources.

What does the manager have to say about all these stories? As always, the Wizard is careful with the spoken word.

"Sure I'm rewarding my wrestlers for their success with good money," he said. "Why shouldn't I? A manager of my status and talent makes more money than the average idiot fan thinks. And I'm always trying to sign new wrestlers. Every good manager always has an eye out for fresh talent. The stories you've been hearing are meant to drag down the wrestling world's best manager in a sea of scandal. It won't work."

We'll be looking further into this fascinating story, especially the rumors about where the money is coming from. If there's a scandal about to break, *Inside Wrestling* will be the first to report it.

RUMOR VS. FACT

RUMOR: Dick Murdoch, currently embroiled in a vicious feud with former tag team partner Dusty Rhodes, was recently rushed to the hospital to have a finger sewed back on. The finger was chopped off by a Rhodes fan who attacked an unsuspecting Murdoch with a buzzsaw in a Tampa carwash!

FACT: We're almost positive

(Continued on page 52)



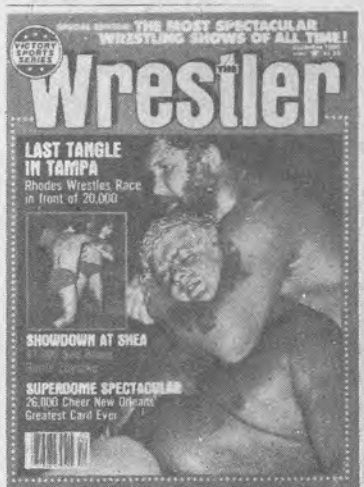
The Grand Wizard has been flashing money as if he had his own printing press. The money is real, however. It's the source of the money that remains in question. The Wizard, of course, claims to be innocent of any wrongdoing.

associate of Sgt. Slaughter. "He just re-signed Slaughter to a contract Sarge couldn't believe. I mean big bucks. And he's trying to sign a lot of the others. I don't mean just rulebreakers and I don't mean just WWF wrestlers. He's changing the

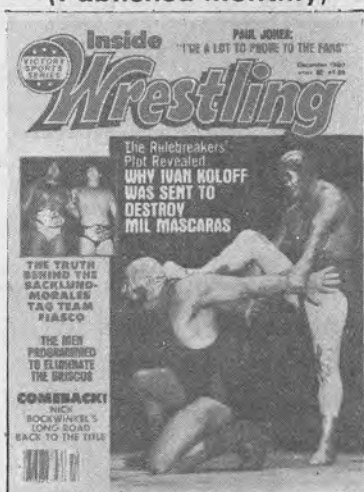
spray around a few bills to almost anyone. It's like he's doing it for show."

The obvious question is: Where is all the Wizard's money coming from? One theory currently circulating through the WWF is that a relative of the

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NAMES MAKI

The National Wrestling Alliance has stripped THE FREEBIRDS, INC. of their Georgia tag team title for an indefinite period, citing The Freebirds' failure to use the agreed-upon two members, TERRY GORDY and BUDDY ROBERTS, in their recent title defense against TED DiBIASE and ROBERT FULLER.



FREEBIRD TERRY GORDY

Normally, The Freebirds' corporate status allows the team to choose any two of its three members at its own discretion, but according to this particular contract, MICHAEL HAYES was prohibited from competing. When The Freebirds came into the ring, however, it was Roberts and Hayes. Gordy, they explained, was at home with a sore leg.

Their story proved to be invalid when Gordy came storming out of the dressing room to aid his team when it was moments from what seemed a sure defeat. The NWA is prepared to take further action to



ANDRE THE GIANT VS. HULK HOGAN

decide whether or not the belts will be returned to The Freebirds, or if they will be stripped of the belts permanently.

Congratulations to Jacksonville promoter and ex-wrestler DON CURTIS. Don was recently inducted into the State University of New York at Buffalo's Hall of Fame. Don was an outstanding all-around athlete at the upstate New York university . . . Rookie BRUCE REED breathes a sigh of relief when he thinks what *might* have happened in the St. Louis Battle Royal. Reed, a 250 pounder, was one of two men left. The other was ANDRE THE GIANT. Rather than attack the rookie, Andre gave Bruce a hug and offered to split the winners purse. Reed was shocked, but only too happy to accept!

ANGELO "KING KONG" MOSCA has been inked by CAPTAIN LOU ALBANO to wrestle in the WWF. "He's here to



ANGELO MOSCA

N' NEWS

Bill Apter
reporting...

do some house cleaning," says the Captain. "Too much garbage layin' around, BOB BACKLUND, PEDRO MORALES, RICK MARTEL. We gotta clean up, daddy, and get rid of the garbage now. Captain and King Kong gonna do it!"

KABUKI is the name of the mysterious Japanese martial arts expert being managed by GARY HART in Texas. Hart has been teaming Kabuki with KILLER BROOKS in attempts to win the American tag team title from KERRY VON ERICH and BRUISER BRODIE... RAUL MATA has worked his way up into main events in Texas... BRUNO SAMMARTINO JR. is on a red hot winning streak in the Mid-Atlantic area.

Are there two men calling themselves North American Champion? It appears that way. As JUNKYARD DOG was busy putting the finishing touches on who he thought was the Masked Grappler, another Masked Grappler ran into help the first Masked Grappler. To make a long story short, Junkyard did not win the title for it is now said that the real champion Masked Grappler was indeed the second man—not the first who Junkyard thought was the champion! Confusing to say the least!

JAY YOUNGBLOOD is now wrestling in Oregon and guess who his tag team partner is—his father, JAY YOUNGBLOOD SR. ... RICK STEAMBOAT is busy trying to win the United States title from RODDY PIPER... Rumors persist that Dusty Rhodes will—we repeat—will wrestle HARLEY RACE for the NWA title in the very near future.



LORD AL HAYS

LORD ALFRED HAYS has added THE SHEIK to his growing stable of wrestlers. "The man is indeed a spectacular fellow," says the good Lord. "Any man who can emote fire from his fingertips and eliminate his opponent permanently is just superb. I am proud to call this chap one of my own."

In the past, we have told you about tension building between two proteges of FRED BLASSIE. They are HULK HOGAN and STAN HANSEN, both masters of



HULK HOGAN

the "Lariat." The tension has now started to surface. During a tag team match, Hogan and Hansen had such a bitter argument, Hogan left the ring and Hansen had to finish the match himself! Neither wrestler nor Blassie will discuss the incident with the press.

AWA champion VERNE GAGNE is convinced that there is no way former champion NICK BOCKWINKEL can defeat him. "I am ready for anything he does," Verne told us. "He can use a



BOCKWINKEL & HEENAN

foreign object, he can bring that flunkie of his, BOBBY HEENAN, into the ring. I will still win. I am confident that no matter what he does, I can remain champion."

BARRY WINDHAM and MIKE GRAHAM won the Florida tag team title from R.T. TYLER and BOBBY JAGGERS—but only briefly. The rulebreaking duo of Jaggars and Tyler had the belts back in their possession just a few weeks later... CHRIS MARKOFF came to Florida to tag up with NIKOLAI VOLKOFF.

That's all for now. See you next time! □

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

Some of the back issues in this ad have not been offered for sale for more than 25 years. All of these extremely rare magazines are from the personal collection of Stanley Weston, owner of the world's largest collection of wrestling memorabilia. This is indeed a once in a lifetime opportunity for the true collector to finally own these highly treasured but until now elusive editions. Obviously, the supplies of these issues is very limited, and they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. It is for that reason we urge you to list substitute choices when you order. This will avoid time wasted writing back and forth should a particular issue be sold out. The prices quoted are based on the rarity of the issue and the amount of available copies. For fastest service, payment should be made by money order or certified check. While cash will be accepted, we cannot assume responsibility when it is sent through the mails. All sales are final and no exchanges will be made.

BOXING & WRESTLING

After five issues, **WRESTLING** magazine changed its name to **BOXING & WRESTLING**. Continuing its high standard in wrestling, the addition of boxing stories made it one of the most popular sports magazines of the '50s. Some of the back issues listed in this ad can be obtained now by the general public for the first time in more than 25 years. As you would expect, supplies are very, very limited.

DECEMBER 1951 Boxing—Maxim Beats Sailor Murphy, Gavilan Beats Billy Graham, Jim Corbett, Knockout Artists, Best Prospects, New Champion Randy Turpin, Upsets, Jersey Joe Walcott, Ratings, Marciano Challenges Walcott, Sandy Saddler (Life Story), Tex Rickard, Famous Fights of the Past, Fights of the Month
Wrestling—Verne Gagne, Ratings, TV Announcer Dennis James, Sandor Szabo, Matches of the Month, Pat Pevee, Sammy Berg, Mae Weston \$25

JANUARY 1952 Boxing—Pep vs. Saddler, Gans vs. Kid Lavigne, Robinson vs. Turpin, Mickey Walker, Tricksters, Tony Janiro, Barney Ross's Record, Tex Rickard, Roland LaStarza, Leonard vs. Kilbane, Rocky Marciano, Ratings, Knockouts
Wrestling—Yvon Robert, Wrestling Whirl, Sky Hi Lee, Matches of the Month, Pacific Coast Championship, George Hackenschmidt, Indian Wrestlers, Ruffy Silverstein, Ratings, Londos vs. Shikat \$25

FEBRUARY 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Trouble with Boxing, Young Prospects, Tony Canzonieri, Bob Fitzsimmons, Rocky Graziano, Unusual Incidents, Predictions for 1952, Willie Lewis vs. Sailor Burke, Ratings (Marciano Fighter of Month), Tex Rickard Story
Wrestling—Dirty Duseks, Cora Combs, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of the Month, The Original Terrible Turk, How to Improve Wrestling, Ratings \$25

JUNE 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Gil Turner, Max Schmeling, Jack Johnson, Ratings, Stillman's Gym, Chico Paddy, Flyweights and Bantamweights, Tex Rickard Story, Verne Gagne, Max Baer's Record
Wrestling—Lord Carlton, Ratings, Mars Bennett, Human Sides, Tony Lanza, Wrestling Whirl, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, Matches of the Month, San Francisco Promoter Joe Malcewicz \$25

JULY 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Joe Baksi, Jess Willard, Manager Al Weil, Abe Attell, Danny Nardico, Fighters Are Human, Tex Rickard Story, Famous Filipinos, Norman Hayes, Ratings
Wrestling—Lord Blears, My Toughest Bouts by Lou Thesz, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of the Month, Texas Rassin', Ratings, Ivan Kamiroff, It Began With Milo, Good Old Days \$25

AUGUST 1952 Boxing—Highlights, Paddy Young, Sammy Mandell, Trainer Doc Bagler, Jack Dempsey, Keeney Teran and Gil Cadilli, Tex Rickard Story, Lew Tendler, TV From Miami, From Knockdown to Victory, Ratings
Wrestling—Dirty Dick Raines, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, How Girl Wrestlers Keep Fit, Ratings, Adrian Bailargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of the Month, Mighty Atlas \$25

SEPTEMBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights, Fighting Italians, George Araujo, Pancho Villa, Trainer Charlie Goldman, Willie Troy, Ratings, Boxing Confidential, Gene Tunney, Jackie Fields
Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Lou Thesz's Record, Ratings, Matches of the Month, Tim Geohagen, William Muldoon, Wrestling Whirl \$25

OCTOBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights (Walcott vs. Charles, Carter loses to Salas, etc.), Lauro Salas, Stanley Ketchel, Irish Champions, Chuck Davey, Max Schmeling, Ratings,

Joe Miceli, Strange Experiences, Willie Pep tells about his loss to Sandy Saddler, Boxing Medicine Man Dr. Nardiello
Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Their Hardest Battles, Matches of the Month, Ray Gunkel, Tough Turks, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Record of Verne Gagne \$25

APRIL 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Billy Graham vs. Joey Giardello, Tiger Jones vs. Johnny Bratton), Pat McMurry, Billy Miske, Ezzard Charles, Undeclared Johnny Saxton, Fidel LaBarba, Luis Firpo, Archie Moore Wins Title at Age 36, Jimmy McLarnin, Jack Dillon
Wrestling—Marvin Mercer, Matches of the Month, Record of Yukon Eric, Killer Kowalski vs. Yukon Eric, Man Mountain Dean, Ratings, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Promoter Al Mayer, Trading Holds \$30

MAY 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Danny Nardico upsets Jake LaMotta, Rocky Castellani beats Tiger Jones), Kid Gavilan kayoes Chuck Davey to retain crown, Roland LaStarza tops Rex Layne, The Dundee Brothers, Baltimore's Great Fighters, Saga of John Morrissey, Tommy Loughran, Ratings, Middleweight Muddle, Charlie White
Wrestling—Fred Curry, Elvira Snodgrass, Matches of the Month, Great Gato, Ruffy Silverstein, Trading Holds, Record of Buddy Rogers, Ratings, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs \$30

OCTOBER 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights of the Month, Dan Buceroni, Promoter Lew Raymond, Arthur Persley, Light Heavyweight History, Best Heavyweight Bets, Jackie 'Kid' Berg upsets Tony Canzonieri, Floyd Patterson, Charlie 'Phil' Rosenberg, Your Boxing I.Q., Ratings
Wrestling—Leo Nomellini, Johnny Barend, Ratings, Record of Sonny Myers, Violet Viann, Matches of the Month, Frank Gotch, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Trading Holds \$30

DECEMBER 1954 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Matches of the Month, Cisco Andrade, Ezzard Charles writes about Marciano, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Tony DeMarco, Jimmy Braddock, Maxie Rosenbloom's Life, Paul Andrews, Tony Galento vs. Lou Nova, Benny Leonard, Quiz, Dempsey vs. Fred Fulton, Quiz
Wrestling—Bob Orton, Matches of the Month, Cowboy Carlson, Mars Bennett, California Champs, Al Costello, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

FEBRUARY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, Nino Valdez Says "I'll Beat Marciano," Billy Petrolle's Life, Carmen Basilio Challenges Johnny Saxton, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Lou Stillman, Jim Corbett vs. Joe Choyinski, Jack Delany, Jack Johnson Compared to Modern Fighters, Why Black Fighters Are Tops, Quiz, Ratings, Jimmy McLarnin
Wrestling—Billy Varga, Ratings, Violet Viann, Verne Gagne, Speaks Out, Matches of the Month, Sonny Myers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, How To Start A Fan Club \$25

MARCH 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, Kid Gavilan, Cisco Andrade, Eugene Criqui, Ratings, Writer Dan Parker, Best Heavyweight Of All, Charley Powell, Young Griffo, Kid McCoy vs. Tommy Sharkey, Willie Ritchie, Quiz, Pedro Montanez
Wrestling—Gorgeous George, Matches of the Month, Jack Witzig, Ike Eakins, Texas Tough Guys, Little Black Dynamite, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs \$25

APRIL 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Archie Moore Blasts Marciano, Robert Cohen, Joe Choyinski's Life, Strike By Managers' Guild, 'Boardwalk' Billy Smith, Ad Wolgast vs. Joe Rivers, Fake Fights, St. Nick's Arena, TV Fights of 1954, Paul Berlenbach, Quiz, Ratings \$25

MAY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, Jimmy Carler, Trainer Whitey Bimstein's Secrets, Pancho Villa's Life, Frankie Ryff, Ray Robinson's Comeback, Les Darcy, Charley Norkus, Max Baer Kayoes Max Schmeling, Bob Fitzsimmons, Quiz, Ratings, Barney Ross

Wrestling—Primo Carnera, Roy McClarity, Matches of the Month, Southwest Champs, Great Scott, Killer Kowalski Strength Secrets, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up of Buddy Rogers \$20

JUNE 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, Eduardo Lausse, Tony Canzonieri's Life, Tiger Jones and Bobby Jones, How Marciano is Managed, Lou Brouillard's Life, Bob Baker, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner, Ten Deadliest Punches, Tommy Ryan vs. Sandow, Ruby Goldstein, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Yukon Eric, Pacific Coast Powerhouses, Billy Goetz, Wrestling Whirl, Manuel Cortez, Matches of the Month, Bob Geigel, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Billy Varga \$25

JULY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Rocky Marciano Crushes Don Cockeril, Fights of the Month, Chico Vejar, Tony Canzonieri's Life (conclusion), Carmen Basilio describes his war with Tony DeMarco, Fight Nite At St. Nick's, Jimmy Soo, Fantasy Fight with Joe Walcott, Ludwig Lightburn, Benny Leonard vs. Ever Hammer, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—'Tiger' Joe Marsh, Matches of the Month, Timmy Geohagen, TV Stars, Yukon Eric Tells How To Build Muscles, Was Henri DeGlane a Nazi? Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Frankie Talabar \$25

AUGUST 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, Floyd Patterson, Tony DeMarco, Boxing's Mouthpiece, Mickey Walker, Joe Rowan, Fritz Zivic batters Henry Armstrong, Fighting Irish, Joey Lopes, Sam Langford vs. Stanley Ketchel, Quiz, Luis Firpo, Ratings
Wrestling—'Legs' Langevin, Yukon Eric, Matches of the Month, Promoter Eddie Quinn, Most Dangerous Holds, Joe Cassius, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up Of Leo Nomellini \$25

SEPTEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, Rocky Castellani, Promoter Jim Norris, Fight Afternoon, Rudy Garcia, Abe Attell, Billy Graham Quits, Terry McGovern vs. Pedler Palmer, Pat McMurry, Al Singer, Willie Jackson, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Leo Nomellini, Do Black Wrestlers Get Fair Shake? Matches of the Month, Crazy Kalmikoffs, Hans Schnabel, Wrestling Whirl, Al & Tiny Mills, Gossip, Wrestling Stinks! Full Color Pin Up of Big Bill Miller \$25

OCTOBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, The Real Marciano, Frankie Carbo, Carmen Basilio, John L. Sullivan vs. Charley Mitchell, Carmelo Costa, Jack Dempsey (Part 1), Paddy Young, Archie Moore, Joe Benjamin, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Hans Herman, Matches of the Month, Strangler Lewis, One World's Title! Sky Hi Lee, Wrestling Whirl, Kamikaze Kinji, Hans Schmidt, Full Color Pin Up of Lord Blears \$25

NOVEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Marciano Kayoes Archie Moore, Fights of the Month, Willie Pastrano, What Made Dempsey A Killer? 'Bud' Smith, Yama Bahama, Joe Gans vs. Rufe Turner, Strategy, Tony Puleo, Great Trainers, Ratings, Johnny Dundee, Johnny Kilbane, Quiz
Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Matches of the Month, Don Arnold, Colorful Characters, Hindu Wrestlers, Chris Tolos, Malcolm Brenner, Full Color Pin Up of Pat O'Connor \$25

JANUARY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of the Month, Joey Giambra upsets Bobo Olson, Joe Lynch, Ray Drake, Mystery of Joe Walcott Solved, Training Camps, Jimmy Slattery, Chris Christensen, Bare Knuckle Brawl-Tom Johnson vs. Isaac Perrins, Petey

Sarron, Charley White, Ratings, Quiz

Wrestling—Why Women Wrestle, Wrestling Whirl, Bill Fletcher, Ivan Padubny, Bearded Wrestlers, Matches of Month, Art Michalek, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

FEBRUARY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Ralph Dupas, Young Otto, Willie Pep, Billy Conn, Nonpareil Dempsey vs. George LaBlanche, Joe Miceli, Boxing Lesson, I.B.C., Freddie Steele, Ratings, Quiz

Wrestling—Pepper Gomez, June Byers vs. Babs Wingo, Matches of Month, French Angel, Karl Davis, Best Rookies, Lou Thesz, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs \$25

MARCH 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Chuck Spieser, Isaac Logart, Ratings, Luis Firpo's Life, Raton Macias, Jim Jeffries vs. Ji Corbett, Tiger Jones, Boxing Lesson, Review of 1955, Frankie Genaro, Quiz

Wrestling—Leo 'The Lion' Newman, Matches of Month, Doc Gallagher, Terrible Turk, Breast Cancer and Girl Wrestlers, Barefoot Wrestlers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Wives of Wrestlers \$25

APRIL 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Commissioner Helfand, Pete Herman, Regaining Titles, Bobby Boyd, Ace Hudkins' Life, George Dixon vs. Solly Smith, Joe Benjamin, Louis 'Kid' Kaplan, Quiz \$25

MAY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, How Floyd Patterson Will Fight Marciano, Ray Robinson's Problems, Jackie 'Kid' Berg's Life, Yama Bahama, 'Kid' Lavigne, Combating TV, Sam Langford, Bob Murphy, Boxing Lesson, Carl Tremaine, Ratings, Quiz

Wrestling—Rocca, Ada Ash, Matches of Month, Old Timers, Prince Maivia, Wrestling Whirl, Jerry Graham, Red Bastien, Gossip \$25

JUNE 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ludwig Lightburn, Remembering Chicago, Tony Zale's Life, Rory Calhoun, Quiz, Ratings, Tom Sharkey vs. Peter Maher by Jim Corbett, Aurelio Herrera, Dave Shade, Readers' Gripe

Wrestling—'Hard Boiled' Haggerty, Wrestling Whirl, John Pesek, Killer Kowalski, Texas Hot Spot, Powerhouses, Matches of Month, Fan Clubs, Gossip \$25

JULY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Marciano, Max Schmeling's Life, Johnny Saxton, John L. Sullivan, Miguel Berrios, Larry Boardman, Quiz, Ratings, Joe Gans vs. 'Elbows' McFadden, Hollywood Legion Stadium, Ritchie Mitchell

Wrestling—Lord Blears, Matches of Month, Mexican Stars, Ramona TeSelle, Danno O'Mahoney, Wrestling Whirl, Roy Shire, TV Wrestling, Gossip \$25

AUGUST 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Bob Fitzsimmons vs. Peter Maher, Cherif Hamia, John Holman, Jess Willard's Life, Bucking TV, Johnny Summerlin, Joe Choyinski, Earl Mastro, Ratings, Bob Armstrong, Quiz, Gossip

Wrestling—George Drake, Wrestling Whirl, Chief Kit Fox, Matches of Month, Yvon Robert (Part 1), Why Wrestlers Bleach Their Hair, Bob Geigel, Gossip \$25

SEPTEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, 'Hurricane' Jackson, Will Marciano Fight Again? Mike McTigue, Bob Baker, Joey Giardello vs. Boxing Commission, Strange Anecdotes, Eddie Machen, Johnny Coulon, Paul Jorgensen, Terry McGovern vs. Oscar Gardner, Mike Gibbons, Ratings, Quiz, Letters

Wrestling—Buddy Rogers, Whipper Watson Wins Title From Thesz, Art of Needling, Yvon Roberts (Part 2), Wrestling Whirl, Dot Dotson, Matches of Month, Dick Nelson, Questions & Answers \$25

OCTOBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, Henry Armstrong's Life, Archie Moore, Jimmy McLarnin, Charley Joseph, Jim Jeffries, Jimmy Soo, Boxing Lesson, Kid Chocolate, Ratings, Quiz, Letters

Wrestling—Don Leo Jonathan, Wrestling Whirl, Fred Blassie, Billy Varga's Wife, Dangers of Wrestling, Yvon Robert (Part 3), Matches of Month, Letters, Fan Club \$25

NOVEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Art Aragon, Mario D'Agata, Tony Anthony, King Levinsky's Life, Johnny Busso, Joe Louis vs. John Henry Lewis, Ken Overlin, Ratings, Lockport Jimmy Duffy, Kid McCoy vs. Jim Stewart, Quiz

Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Around the Circuit, Slave Girl Moolah, Ratings, Matches of Month, Yvon Robert (Part 4), George Hubert, Fan Clubs, Letters \$25

DECEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Gene Fullmer, Jack Dempsey vs. Billy Miske, Harold Carter, Tex Class Fights, Jinx of College Fighters, Barney Ross vs. Jimmy McLarnin, Alex Miteff, Eddie 'Babe' Risko, Leonard Del Genio, Frank Battaglia, Ratings, Letters

Wrestling—John Paul Hennig, Wrestling Whirl, Rose Roman, Tag Team Situation, Matches of Month, Jim Wright, Bull Montana's Wife, Are Fans Crazy? Letters \$25

JANUARY 1957 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Fighter of Year, Mike Gibbons' Life, Predicting the Champs in 1957, Joe Brown, Greatest Lightweights of All Time, Stanley Ketchel, Boxing Lesson, Tommy Loughran beats Jim Braddock, Bill Brennan, Ratings, Quiz, Letters

Wrestling—Carl Engstrom, Greatest Champions of All Time Bronko Nagurski, Matches of Month, Johnny Barend, Wrestling Whirl, Tito Carreon, Comparing Old and New, Letters \$30

FEBRUARY 1957 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Ray Robinson, Tom Sayers vs. John C. Heenan, Larry Boardman, Jim Jeffries Life in Pictures, Marciano and Manager Al Weill, Jim Corbett vs. Bob Fitzsimmons, Spider Webb, Jack Johnson, Joey Giardello, Pancho Villa vs. Jimmy Wilde, Gordon Wallace, 25 Years Ago, The Fighter, By Back London (Fiction), Quiz, Letters, Pal Moran, Ratings

Wrestling—Letters, Girl Wrestling History, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month \$25

AUGUST 1957 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Carmen Basilio, TV Boxing Kayoed? Tom Molyneux, Jimmy McLarnin kayoes Sid Terris, Willie Meehan Beats Jack Dempsey, Roland LaStarza, Can't Learn in Gym, Abe Attell, Billy Con's Life in Pictures, Walter Byars, Remember When, Eddie Machen, Mike McTigue Today, Ratings, Critics Talk

Wrestling—Yukon Eric, Matches of Month, Mr. Moto, Carlos Moreno, Fan Clubs \$35

SEPTEMBER 1957 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Fights of Month, Tony Anthony, Benny Leonard Kayoed by Frank Fleming, Alphonse Halimi, Peter Jackson, Willie Pastrano, Gene Tunney, Billy Ryan, Triple Header, Harry Greg beats Mickey Walker, Dave Shade Kayoes Jimmy Slatery, Harry Wills Stops Charley Weinert, 'Knockout Brown', Tom Sayers, Stanley Ketchel's Life in Pictures, Critics Talk, Ratings

Wrestling—Wrestlers Highest Paid, Killer Kowalski, Results of Month, Hard Boiled Haggerty, Letters, Fan Clubs, Facts Behind Wrestling Boom \$35

DECEMBER 1957 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Pat McMurtly, Billy Soose, Henry Armstrong Beats Barney Ross, The Tiger & The Cub (Fiction), Marcel Cerdan's Life in Pictures, Sam Langford, Roy Harris, Graziano Beats Zale, Orlando Zulueta vs. Joe Brown, Yvon Durelle, Johnny Busso, Harold Gomes,

Harold Johnson, Most Historic Ring, Ratings

Wrestling—Slave Girl Moolah, Belly Laughs, Results of Month, Wrestling Boom, Canadian Trail, 'Blackie' Guzman, Fan Clubs, Steve Stanlee \$25

JANUARY 1958 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Jimmy Braddock vs. Tommy Farr, Floyd Patterson, Johnny Kilbane, Mike O'Dowd, Chalky Wright, Carmen Basilio, Jimmy Wilde's Life, World's Ten Best Fighters, Quiz, Fighters Turned Actor, Bobbing Lesson, Bare Knuckle Feature, Leach Cross Kayoes Young Otto, Letters, Remember When, Ratings

Wrestling—Ricki Starr, The Bruiser, Canadian Trail, Fan Clubs, Letters, Matches of Month \$25

FEBRUARY 1958 Boxing—TV Jottings, Letters, Fights of Month, Louis vs. Marciano, Robinson vs. LaMotta, Walcott vs. Charles, Pep vs. Saddler, Basilio vs. DeMarco, Light Heavyweight History, Punch that Shocked World (Jack Sharkey Fools Max Schmeling), Preview of 1958, Born Killer (Fiction), Britain's Boxing Booths, Ray Robinson's Career in Pictures, Picking Winners, Quiz, Gene Tunney-Georges Carpentier Feud, Al McCoy, Critics Talk

Wrestling—Mickey Gold, The Garibaldis, Smith Brothers, Gypsy Joe, The Gallaghers, How Women React to Wrestlers, Photo Highlights, Results of Month, Fan Clubs \$25

APRIL 1958 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Fights of Month, Ratings, Carmen Basilio—Fighter of the Year, Complete Review of 1957 featuring Records, Results, Weights, Photos (Eight Pages), Bob Fitzsimmons, History of the Middleweights, Kid Chocolate Beats Fidel LaBarba, John L. Sullivan's Life, Barney Ross' Book, Remember When

Wrestling—Wrestlers in Movies, Sexiest Girl Wrestlers—Penny Banner and Barbara Baker, Predictions for 1958, Is The Champion Lou Thesz or Ed Carpentier? Sellout at the Garden, Photos of Month, Results of Month \$25

WRESTLING REVUE

WRESTLING REVUE (1959-1964) is thought to be the finest series of wrestling magazines ever published. These beautiful editions (all edited and published by Stanley Weston) set a standard by which all of today's wrestling magazines are judged. The magnificent back issues in this ad, many of which contain spectacular full-color inserts, have been unavailable to the public for more than 10 years. Supplies of these collector's treasures are very limited.



Fall 1959

The first issue, edited and published by Stanley Weston, established a new style for wrestling magazines. This classic first issue, printed on heavy, coated paper, contains eight pages of full color pictures, plus front and back covers, also in dazzling full color. Fifteen years ago, this extremely rare issue was being sold for \$50 per copy, the same price we are offering it to you now \$50

FALL 1960	\$35
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AUGUST 1964	\$35
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COLLECTOR'S CORNER

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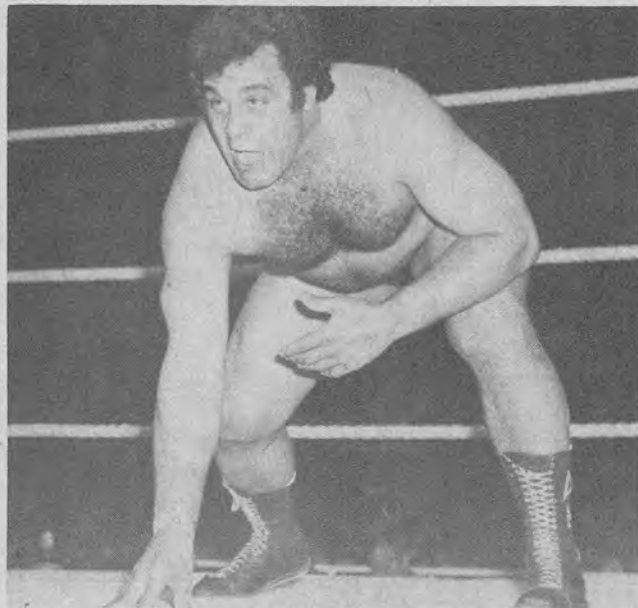
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Matt Brock's **PLAIN SPEAKING**

PHILADELPHIA, PA: This is a city that went to sleep one night a joke and awoke the sports capital of the world. The City of Brotherly Love has become the City of Champions. The baseball Phillies, the football Eagles, the hockey Flyers, the basketball 76'ers were all champions of their divisions. And Philadelphia's adopted citizen, Bob Backlund, has the biggest title of all—WWF champion. Enter Angelo Mosca, aided by our old insane friend Lou Albano. They call Mosca "King Kong," but I don't think that nickname fits him. King Kong was jovial compared to Mosca. But Mosca and Albano have one purpose in life. Taking Backlund's title. Their minds are as one

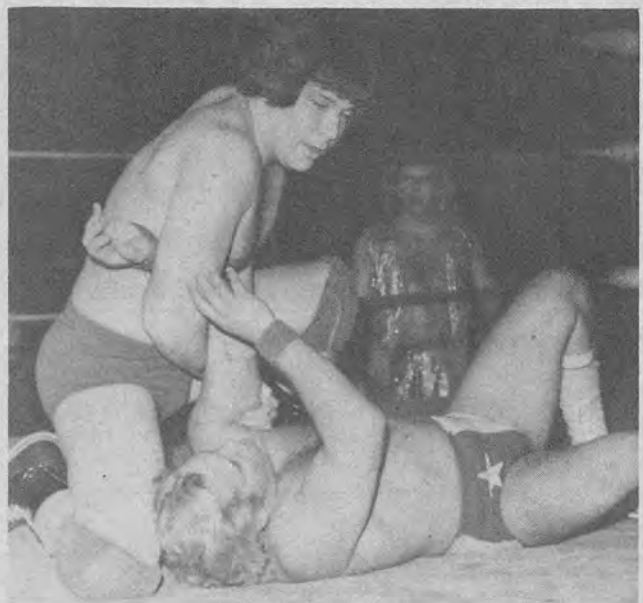


ANGELO MOSCA

track as a kid's first model train set. And why does Albano think Mosca will succeed where everyone else has failed? "Lissen here, Brock, lemme tell ya, the man's a killer, yes the man's vicious, yes he's brutal . . ." Albano's voice came through the telephone receiver with the charm of volcanic ash. At 4:30 in the morning. I hung up

the phone and went back to sleep. My dreams aren't much anymore, but compared to Albano's voice, they're at least quiet. As for Mosca taking Backlund's title? We'll see.

ATLANTA, GA: It's always nice to see some wiseguys made to look foolish. Consider The Fabulous Freebirds. They flew to the Georgia tag team title more on a lawyer's contract than ability. These three rulebreakers incorporated, making it impossible for opponents to know which of the two would be wrestling on any given night. And it all worked well until pride came between their better judgement. And my bartender always says, "Pride goeth before losing a title." Taunts by Ted DiBiase and Robert Fuller that the Birds were chickens got their goose. So Terry Gordy and Buddy Roberts agreed to sign a contract that those two would be the wrestlers on the night The Freebirds defended their belts against DiBiase and Fuller. Come the night of the match, and who shows up



DIBIASE VS. FREEBIRD ROBERTS

Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

but Roberts and *Michael Hayes*. Where was Gordy? Well, Roberts and Hayes claimed he had a damaged wing. So DiBiase and Fuller agreed to wrestle Roberts and Hayes. Confusing? Just wait. As the match progressed, it was obvious Fuller and DiBiase would take the belts. So swooping down the aisle, looking a lot like a curly-haired Rodan, comes Terry Gordy. His interference caused his fine feathered friends to be disqualified. Saving their titles, right? Wrong. The NWA has had enough of The Freebirds' tricks. It stripped the trio of the belts, vacating the title until it can sort out this mess. The Freebirds, with faces as red as a robin's breast, flew back to their nests and plotted revenge. So, in the end they were too smart for their own good, right? Eggzactly!

ST. LOUIS, MO: The plane trip from Atlanta to St. Louis was uneventful. Of course, I consider any plane ride that doesn't end in a crash uneventful. Somewhere over the Mississippi River, your intrepid columnist had just dozed off when an elbow to the side caused him to scream, "Women and children be damned, get me a parachute!" Once my eyes started focusing, I saw the smiling face of Ted DiBiase looking down on me. "I thought you reporters always took the bus," he said. Then the smile vanished. "Mind if I set down next to you, Matty?" he asked. You can do about anything, son, so long as you don't call me Matty, I was about to say. But DiBiase was in no mood for jokes. "We're both going to St. Louis for the same reason," DiBiase said. "It's my match against Harley Race." DiBiase was about to say something else when he abruptly stood up and said, "Check you out there, Brockie," and walked to the front of the plane. I've been in this business a long time. And I've seen the look on Ted DiBiase's face on a lot of young contenders before a title match. It is a look of ambition tempered by fear. I know what you're going through, Ted DiBiase. You're on the top of your game. You've never been better. The moves never came easier. You're no longer worried

about losing to Harley Race. You're worried what's going to happen to you if you win.

BUFFALO, NY: Here I am in Buffalo in the middle of the winter. If I see one more rosy-cheeked youngster I'm going to go crazy. It's 10 degrees outside and it's snowing. It's always snowing. I think it snows even in the summer here. The weather report calls for snow today, changing over into a blizzard tomorrow. At last count, there were 123 feet of snow on the



DON CURTIS

ground. And my luggage was lost in St. Louis. No winter coat. No thermal underwear. All I have is a pair of designer jeans I borrowed from Bill Apter (did anyone but Bill ever hear of a designer named Myron of Shaker Heights?) and a T-shirt with Dusty Rhodes' picture on it. And tomorrow I'm going to a ritzy affair at the University. It seems the Hall of Fame at the University of Buffalo is inducting a new member. And it just happens to be my old Marine buddy Don Curtis, the former great wrestler and current wrestling promoter in Jacksonville, Florida. I hope Donnie appreciates my coming. We've been in a lot of fun places together. Iwo Jima. Guadalcanal. Korea. And now, Buffalo. I think I preferred Guadalcanal. At least it was warm. □

HOTSEAT

BOB BACKLUND

**"I'D RATHER
BE CHAMPION
THAN LOVED!"**

HE BURST UPON the wrestling scene just a few years ago. Armed with an impeccable amateur background and a winsome personality, he soon became one of the most popular wrestlers in the world. On February 20, 1978, in front of a standing-room-only crowd in New York's Madison Square Garden, he upset reigning WWF Champion Superstar Graham. He has since defended that title with honor, pride, and dignity. He is Bob Backlund.

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY STEVE FARHOOD

Q: Bob, how are ya? Welcome to the Hotseat.

A: It's been a while.

Q: Bob, you have been WWF champion for more than three years. Many experts and fans are surprised you could hold

**"
Fans sometimes forget
that being a wrestler is a
24-hour-a-day job.
There's gym work and
road work, the whole
thing. As hard as I worked
before I became
champion, I work twice
as hard today.
"**

the title for so long. Are you surprised by the length of your reign?

A: No, not really. You see, I work very hard at what I do. Fans sometimes forget that being a wrestler is a 24-hour-a-day job. You just don't show up at the arena and wrestle for a few minutes and

leave. There's gym work and road work, the whole thing. As hard as I worked before I became champion, I work twice as hard today.

Q: What's the hardest part about being champion?

A: The long hours alone on the road. As champion, I have to go where the WWF tells me to go. Sometimes I'm on the road six times a week. You know, in pro sports people talk about the "home court advantage." Well, I *never* have that advantage.

Q: And your opponents do?

A: At times, sure. I wrestled Antonio Inoki in Japan, and believe me, there weren't many fans cheering for me. Last month, I went to St. Louis to wrestle Harley Race. Yes, it's true the fans were on my side for that match, but you have to remember that





“

When you have guys trying to cripple you night after night, trying to pound you into unconsciousness, trying to take away what you worked and sweated for, it causes you to change.

”

St. Louis is Race's home town. He was rested, he had home-cooked meals, a good-night's sleep in a bed he was used to. It's tough to always travel, to always be a stranger in a strange land.

Q: You sound a little bitter.

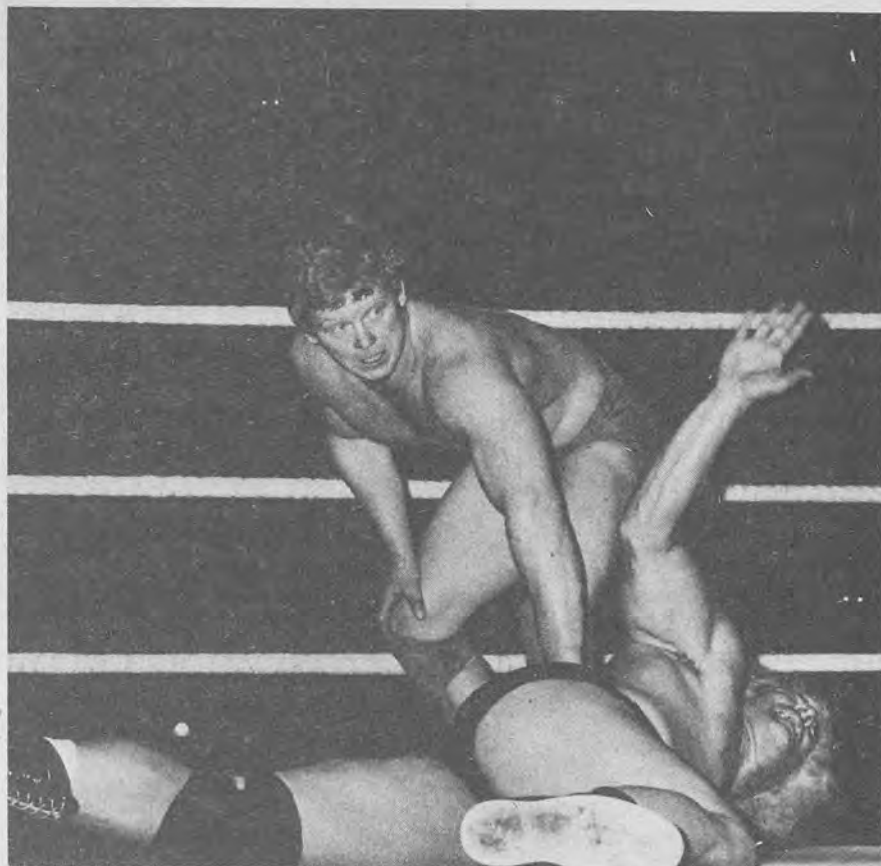
A: Do I? I really don't feel bitter. Maybe you caught me on a bad day.

Q: What do you enjoy about being champion?

A: Well, that's a question I'm glad to answer. I like the respect and love I get from the fans. But most of all, I like the responsibility.

Q: The responsibility?

A: Sure. See, I'm the type of guy who needs to be pushed a little. Now that I'm champion, I know I can't let up for even



Bob Backlund seeks the approval of the fans as he punishes Ken Patera. The fans are very important to the reigning WWF champion, but at the same time, he says that they will just have to understand that he might have to use some roughhouse tactics to stay on even terms with his challengers.

a second. When I'm out doing my running, every now and then I tell myself, Bobby, don't run those last two miles. Take it easy. No one will know. And then I remember I'm WWF champion. If I don't run those last couple of miles I'll know. I won't be in as good a physical and mental shape as I should be.

Q: Do you think your opponents will know?

A: Of course. You show one sign of weakness in this business, and you're through. Now, suppose I came into a match against a Killer Khan or a Stan Hansen at less than 100 percent. And suppose I lost. It would be a disaster for the WWF to have a man like Khan or Hansen as champion. That's what I mean by the responsibility of being champion.

Q: Bob, changing the subject a

little, many fans have written to us to say they think you're changing as a person. They say you don't seem to be the same all-American boy type you were when you first won the belt.

A: Yes, I guess that's true. Are the fans complaining about it?

Q: No, not at all. Most feel it's a necessary change. But was the change an intended one on your part?

A: No, it just sort of happened. Look, when you have guys trying to cripple you night after night, trying to pound you into unconsciousness, trying to take away what you worked and sweated for, it causes you to change. When I was starting out in wrestling, it was easy and natural to be the all-American boy. But now I'm champion. And that's a job for a man, not a

boy.

Q: Have you changed your ring tactics any?

A: Very little. I know I'm a little more aggressive now than I used to be. A few years ago, I always gave my opponent the benefit of the doubt. You know, maybe he would wrestle scientifically. No more. Today, when I get into the ring against maniacs like Khan or Patera, I know exactly what to do. And that's get them before they get me.

Q: Doesn't that present a potential problem for your fans? How can they cheer for you if you are the first to use rulebreaking tactics? Are you saying that you no longer intend to be a totally scientific wrestler?

A: Please don't put words in my mouth, Steve. There's a big difference between being an aggressive wrestler and a rulebreaker. I'm merely saying that I know in advance that my opponents are going to try and cripple me and take my title any way they can. And I act accordingly.

Q: Do you think you will lose any fans this way?

A: No, I really don't. My fans know what I stand for. I don't have to stand in the middle of the ring and let my opponent just about kill me before I retaliate. I believe the fans know what I'm talking about, but if they don't, well, I'd rather be champion than loved anyway. In my heart I know I can defend the WWF title with honor. But remember, you can only defend the title if you *have* the title.

Q: So the most important thing is retaining that belt? Do the ends justify the means?

A: You're trying to make me sound like the Grand Wizard or one of those guys. Of course the ends don't always justify the means. I'm merely saying that I think the fans should trust me. I believe that with my conduct over the years I have earned their trust. And in return I promise never to let them down. When I won the WWF title in 1978, I jumped on a turnbuckle and screamed to the fans, "Thank



“

There's a big difference between being an aggressive wrestler and a rulebreaker. I know in advance my opponents are going to try to cripple me and take my title away any way they can. And I act accordingly.

”

Backlund, who sits vulnerable to Killer Khan's karate chop, is painfully aware of the importance of his strict training program. For if he ever lets up and a man like Khan takes the WWF belt, the sport that he loves so much would be in severe trouble.



you!" This belt is yours as well as mine!" Believe me, that feeling has never changed.

Q: Bob, what type of wrestler most upsets you? The Killer Khan type, for instance?

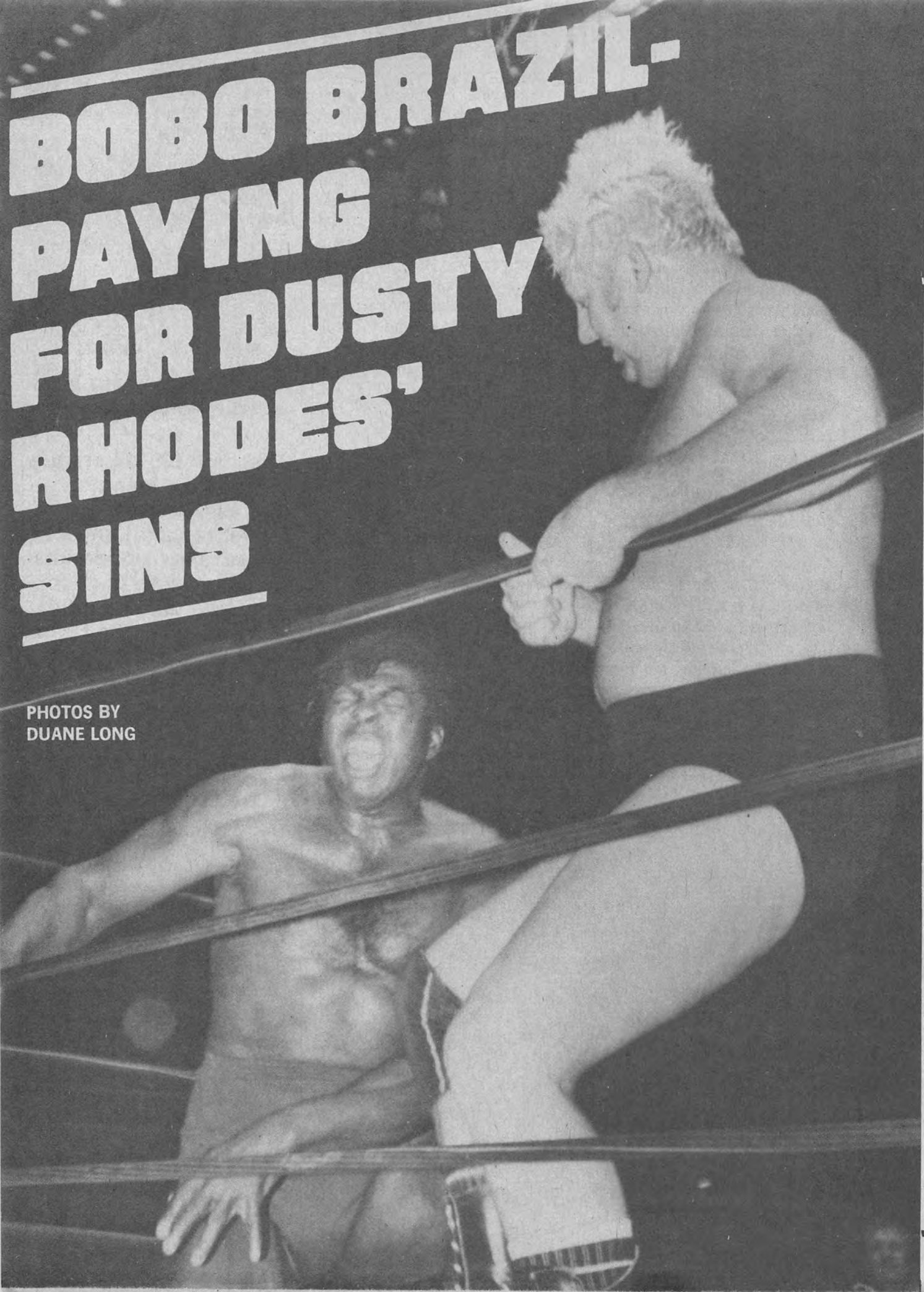
A: No, not Khan. Look, that guy is a complete maniac. He is totally under Fred Blassie's control. He simply can't help himself. The type of wrestler I hate most is the Ken Patera type. Patera is a great athlete, smart, good-looking, but somewhere along the line something snapped inside. To me, he's the biggest disgrace in professional wrestling.

A: Bob, thanks for sharing your thoughts with us today.

Q: Thank you, Steve. There were a lot of things which I felt needed to be said. □

BOBO BRAZIL- PAYING FOR DUSTY RHODES' SINS

PHOTOS BY
DUANE LONG



Bobo Brazil believes a man has to stand up for a friend. So when Dusty Rhodes couldn't appear at a scheduled match against Dick Murdoch, Bobo said he would wrestle instead. Out of training and unprepared for Murdoch's incredible onslaught, Bobo was almost tragically injured. But he would do it all over again

AFTER IT WAS over, Bobo Brazil said, "I made the choice. No one has to take any blame."

It was a brave and noble thing for Bobo Brazil to say. Every person in the dressing room was thinking about someone who wasn't there. Bobo has been savaged because that someone failed to show up. It was a beating meant for him that Bobo endured. That someone was Dusty Rhodes.

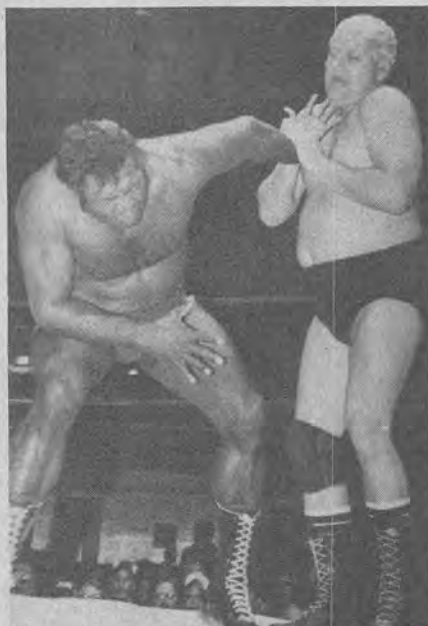
Hours earlier, Dick Murdoch was rampaging through the dressing room.

"The sniveling coward," Murdoch muttered, "is afraid to get near me. I knew he'd run. He's

Later, Brazil would admit that he was never less prepared for a match. His effort, though, was inspirational. Murdoch bends back Bobo's wrist (right). He then brings Bobo off his feet with a forearm to the back of the knee (below) and follows with a knee to the chest (opposite left).

as yellow as the day is long. The bum! The yellow bum!"

Murdoch had just been told Dusty Rhodes had to cancel their match only hours before it was scheduled. Murdoch had been training hard for this encounter



with his former tag team partner. Their friendship had turned sour and Murdoch wanted Dusty's scalp. Now, the promoter had told Murdoch the match was off. All that anger with no place to go.

Suddenly, Murdoch rushed the promoter. "If I don't wrestle, I'm going to stand in the ring and call Rhodes a coward. I want all his fans to know he's scared of me. I want the world to know. If I can't have my match, I'll damn well have my moment!"

The promoter, half Murdoch's size and with a sure sense of survival, agreed to Murdoch's demands. That's when Bobo Brazil, Dusty's friend, stepped in.

"It's not fair," Bobo objected, "and I won't let you say it. Dusty has a reason for not making the match and I'm sure it's a good one. You can't slander a man like that. And you can't bully a promoter."

"Who says I can't?" Murdoch bellowed.

"I say you can't," Bobo replied with steely calm.

The promoter, eager to have a match and get off the hook, asked if Bobo would take Dusty's place. Brazil saw the dare in Murdoch's eyes and accepted.

Bobo's friends tried to unmask the match as quickly as it was made. They argued that Bobo wasn't ready to take on Murdoch. After all, Bobo had come that night to see a pal wrestle, not battle himself. A match against Murdoch requires intensive training, being at one's physical peak. Bobo hadn't been in the gym for over a week. This was suicide. After graciously listening to his friends, Bobo went to dress for combat.

Later, as he left for the ring, he
(Continued on page 54)



INSIDE WRESTLING'S

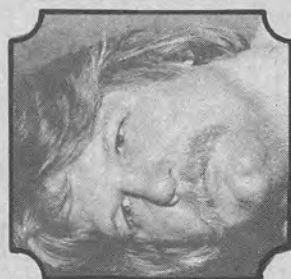
OFFICIAL RATINGS

These Ratings Are Compiled With The Assistance Of Top Wrestlers, Promoters, And Reporters. They Are Universally Accepted As Official

World Wrestling Federation

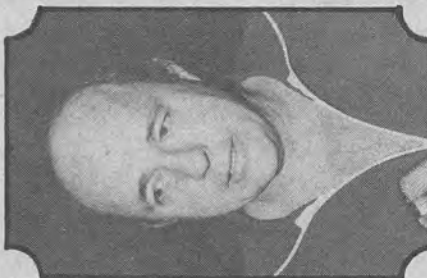


Champion:
BOB BACKLUND



1—STAN HANSEN

American Wrestling Association



Champion:
VERNE GAGNE



1—NICK BOCKWINKEL

National Wrestling Alliance



Champion:
HARLEY RACE



1—RODDY PIPER

Most Popular Wrestlers

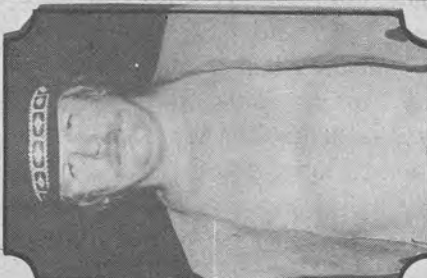


1—ANDRE THE GIANT



2—BRUNO
SAMMARTINO

Most Hated Wrestlers

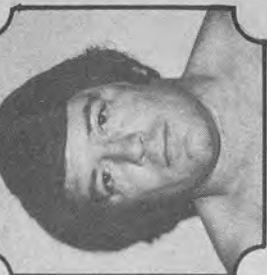


1—STAN HANSEN



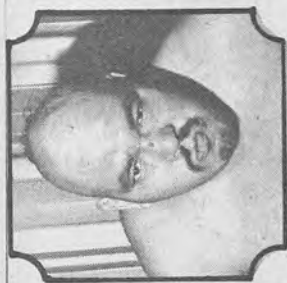
2—LARRY ZBYSZKO

Tag Teams



1—PAUL JONES &
MASKED SUPERSTAR

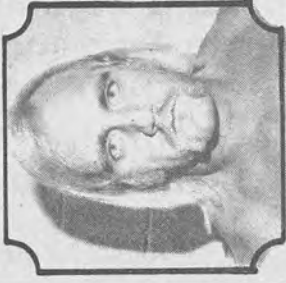




2—KILLER KHAN



3—PEDRO MORALES



4—HULK HOGAN

- 5—SGT. SLAUGHTER
- 6—LARRY ZBYSKO
- 7—KEN PATERA
- 8—PAT PATTERSON
- 9—RICK MARTEL
- 10—TONY GAREA



2—BILLY ROBINSON

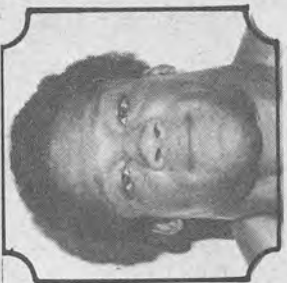


3—JOHN STUDD



4—DINO BRAVO

- 5—CRUSHER
BLACKWELL
- 6—JIM BRUNZELL
- 7—MAD DOG
VACHON
- 8—TITO SANTANA
- 9—GREG GAGNE
- 10—JESSE VENTURA



2—TONY ATLAS



3—DUSTY RHODES



4—RICK STEAMBOAT

- 5—DICK SLATER
- 6—TED DiBIASE
- 7—BARRY WINDHAM
- 8—MASKED
GRAPPLER
- 9—ERNIE LADD
- 10—KERRY VON ERICH



3—DUSTY RHODES

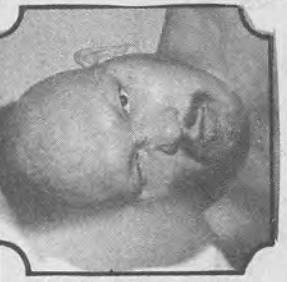


4—MIL MASCARAS



5—BOB BACKLUND

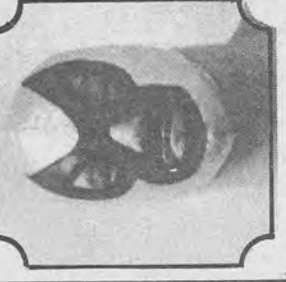
- 6—RICK STEAMBOAT
- 7—PEDRO MORALES
- 8—WAHOO
McDANIEL
- 9—DINO BRAVO
- 10—JUNKYARD DOG



3—KILLER KHAN



4—GREG VALENTINE



5—MASKED GRAPPLER

- 6—KEN PATERA
- 7—BARON VON
RASCHKE
- 8—BUDDY ROBERTS
- 9—EDDY
MANSFIELD
- 10—DENNIS CONDRI



2—TONY GAREA
& RICK MARTEL

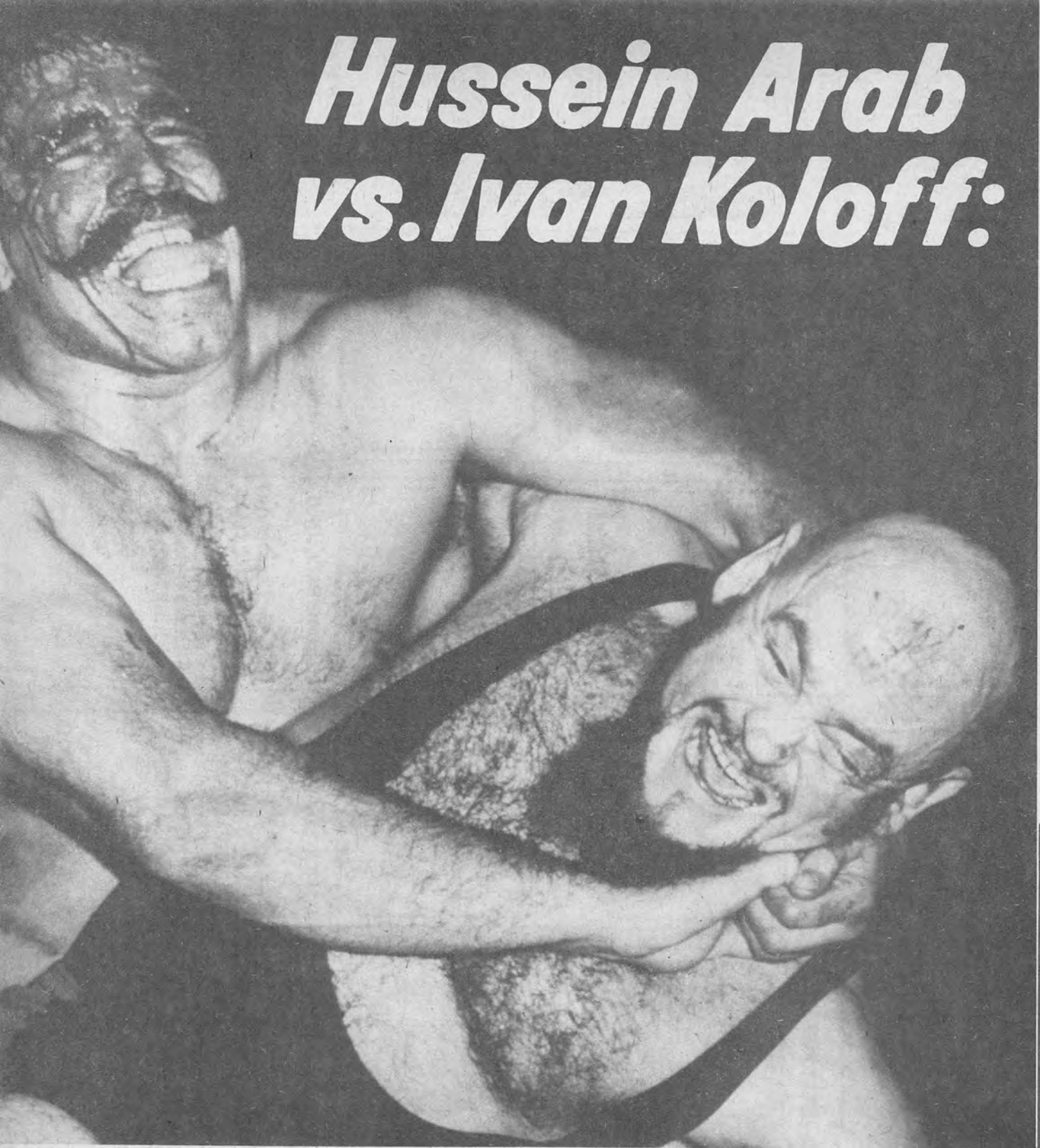


3—JESSE VENTURA
& ADRIAN ADONIS



- 4—THE FREEBIRDS
- 5—GEORGE WELLS &
DEWEY ROBERTSON
- 6—BOBBY JAGGERS
& R.T. TYLER
- 7—THE MOONDOGS
- 8—THE SAMOANS
- 9—RAY STEVENS &
JIMMY SNUKA
- 10—RANDY ROSE &
DENNIS CONDRI

Hussein Arab vs. Ivan Koloff:



Both came to America to wrestle the best this country had to offer. But now, Hussein Arab and Ivan Koloff have turned their hatred upon each other. While the fans watch in awe, these two giants tear at one another in an attempt not just to win, but to cripple. Will America ever be the same?

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER

THE HORROR OF IT. Two human beings were reduced to hideously bloody pulps. Hussein Arab's face was a mask of blood. Ivan Koloff's arm was a scarlet limb. Spectators were in tears.

No one was surprised. This war could only have ended in a bloodbath. These two men were battling for honor, pride, dignity, and things even they can't understand. Some driving force within them commanded they sacrifice everything for victory.

At one time, these two immigrants were tag team partners. Even then, one might have guessed their partnership would end in hatred. It didn't

take long. Arguments broke out almost from the first. These two independent men could never adapt to each other's style. In matches, they would argue

more between each other than their opponents. Koloff publicly announced he was solely responsible for the team's success. Hussein publicly called



Koloff doubles Arab over with a forearm smash to the back of his head. Note the bandage on Ivan's forehead. It wouldn't last long as Hussein removed it with his teeth.

A BLOODY WAR EXPLODES IN A NEUTRAL COUNTRY

Arab takes a chunk out of Koloff's arm.



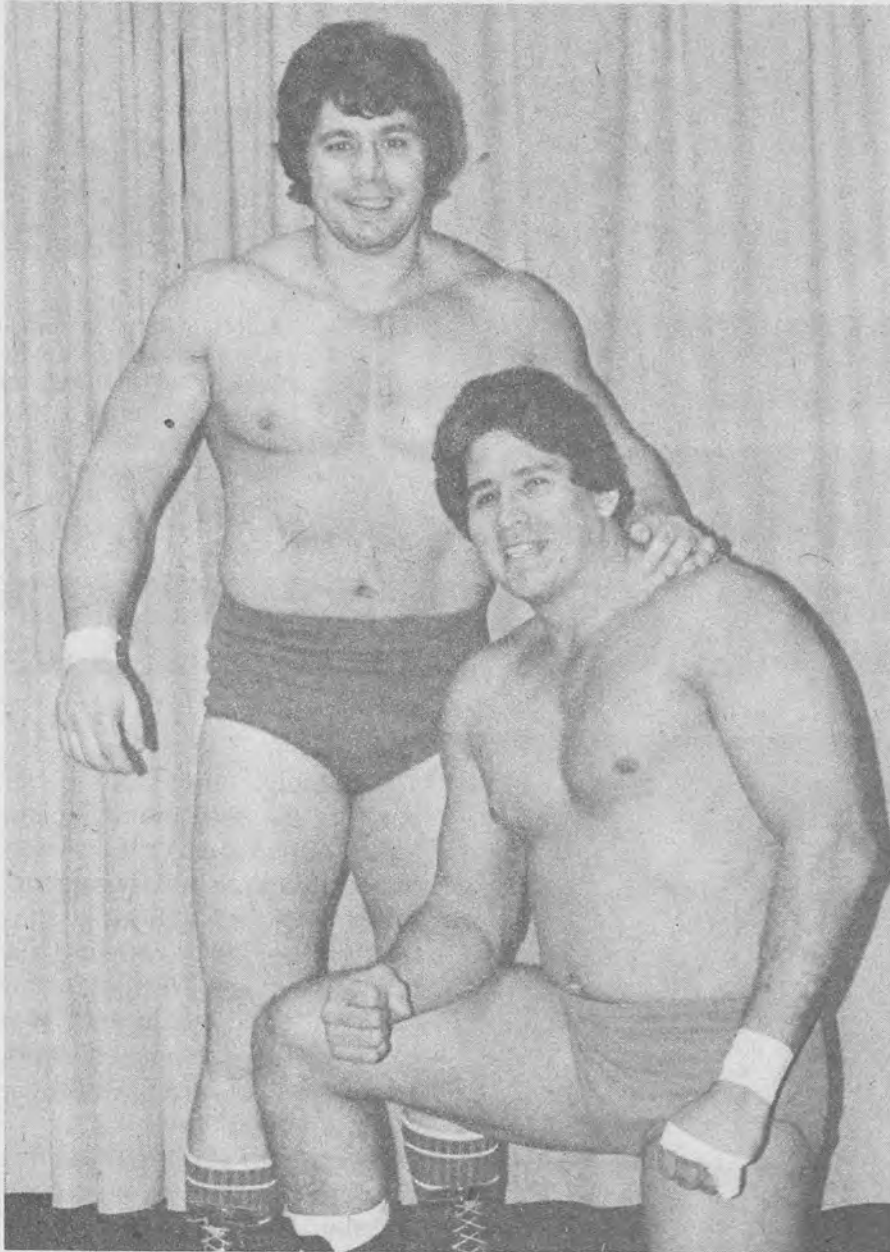
Koloff a liar.

Inevitably, the team disbanded as the men became bitter enemies. It's almost impossible to list all the reasons these two men gave for their feud. In the end, it was just that these two men were born to hate each other. Their match was destined to be horribly gory. There was no other way these two men could have it.

Those who saw Koloff before the bout spoke of his rage. Usually, the grappler contains his anger, bottling his fury until the moment of combat. This night, Koloff raged out of control. Three lockers were demolished during the Russian's rampage. This was only the beginning of a night's savagery.

(Continued on page 56)

SANTANA TOO ALIKE



THE REGULAR HUM of the car motor was the only sound to be heard. Inside, Tito Santana leaned back and closed his eyes. Dino Bravo, driving as fast as the law allowed, turned the radio on loud.

Several times during the journey, Tito opened his eyes and considered turning off the radio. There were things to be said that neither man wanted to hear. Remembering the ancient Mexican proverb, "Bad news can always keep," Tito would again lean back and close his eyes. The wound was too fresh for either man to pick at it.

Bravo pulled into the motel parking lot where they both were staying. Wordlessly, both men got out of the car and went to their separate rooms. Perhaps the words would sound better tomorrow.

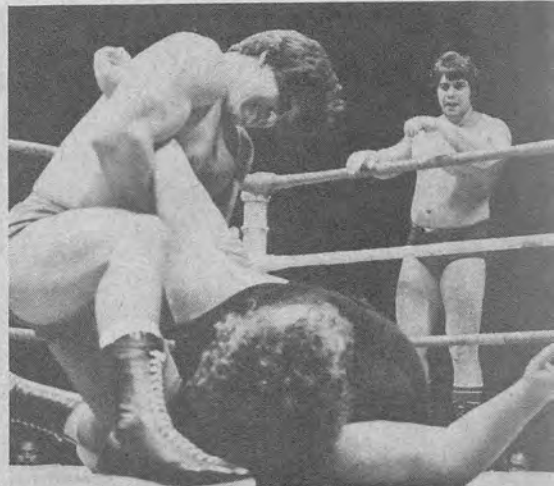
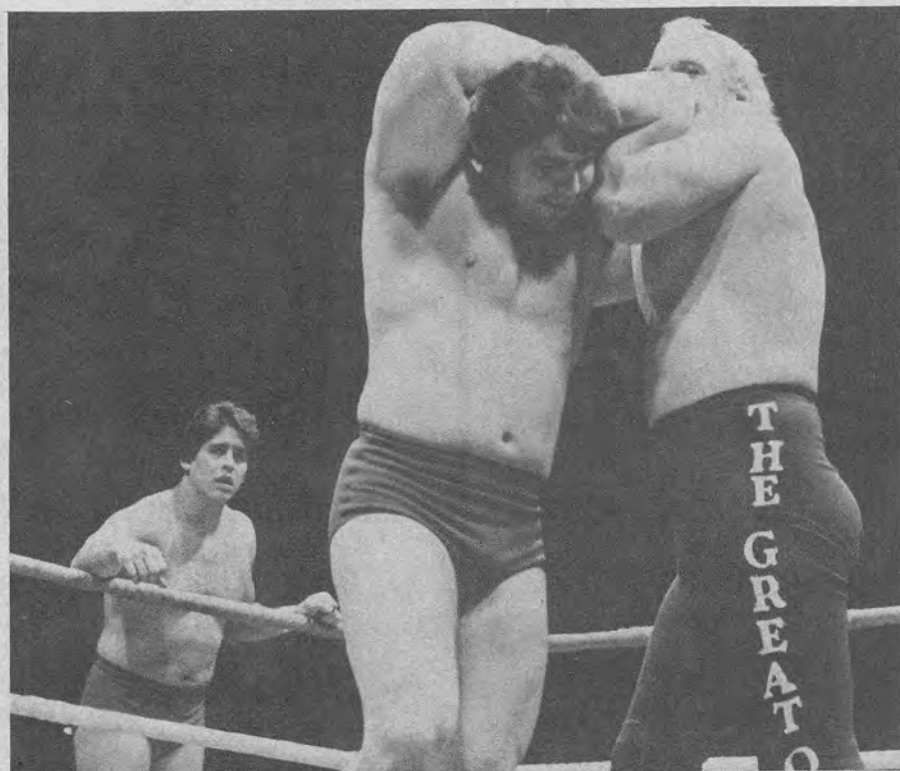
At three in the morning, Tito's phone rang. Half asleep, he heard Dino's voice tell him to come to Dino's room. From the sound of the summons, Tito found himself wide awake.

Minutes later, Tito walked into the room. Dino was pouring boiling water into two styrofoam cups. He stirred the instant coffee, compliments of the management. Tito took a sip and

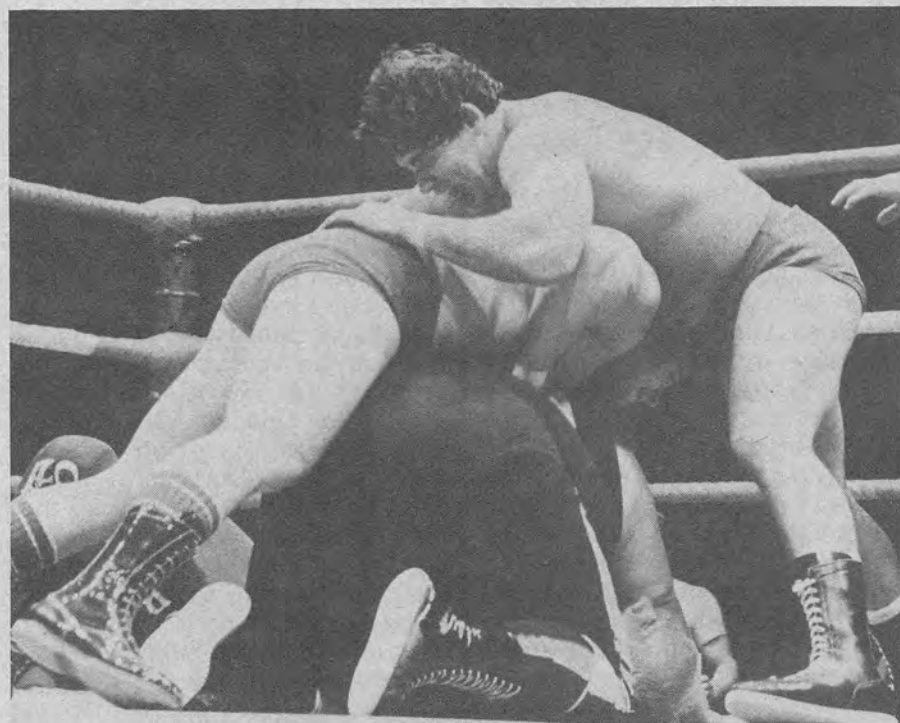
Their styles are similar. So is their temperament. As well as their weaknesses. Tito Santana and Dino Bravo formed what they thought would be an unbeatable tag team. Instead, it almost destroyed their friendship

& BRAVO: TO SUCCEED

PHOTOS BY BOB RUIZ



Tito Santana is concerned about Dino Bravo's chances in a test of strength with Jesse Ventura (left). Bravo lends encouragement to Santana as he locks up Crusher Blackwell (above). Almost lost in this pile-up is Ventura (below left). One ringsider thought he heard Jesse crying for oxygen.



wished the management would keep its compliments to itself.

Dino sank into the room's overstuffed chair. Tito paced back and forth, his habit when upset. Both men knew what had to be said, but neither wanted to say it. Finally, Dino broke the silence.

"We're not as good as we should be," Dino stated.

"Maybe we are," Tito said, "but that's not good enough. Maybe we're not right together as a tag team."

A long silence followed that. Dino then asked, "Why?" Another long silence followed. Tito's pacing grew faster.

"We're too much alike," Dino

(Continued on page 62)

NEWS FROM THE

If you would like your area of the country represented in these reports, while also being officially credited with your own by-line, send us reports of the matches you attend. You will have the thrill of seeing your name in an internationally known magazine while at the same time helping to improve the quality of wrestling in your area. So why not give it a try? You will be glad you did!

Send your reports to: Correspondent Editor, Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571

GADSDEN, GA

By Doug Ford



TONY ATLAS

vs.

✓ **TERRY GORDY**



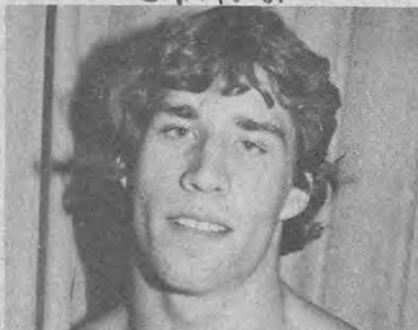
Mr. U.S.A., Tony Atlas, went after Freebird Terry Gordy in a match that started with fine scientific wrestling. Most fans knew this wouldn't last, as Gordy's partner Michael Hayes was at ringside. And sure enough, Hayes started to illegally interfere, which enraged Atlas. Tony took all of his hatred out on Gordy, who couldn't stand the pain and threw Atlas over the top rope, thereby causing the Freebird's immediate disqualification.

OTHER BOUTS: The Freebirds cheated past Robert Fuller and Steve O . . . Lumberjack Jos LeDuc chopped down Jerry Oates . . . Ted Oates was too much for Crazy Luke Graham.

DALLAS, TX

By Shawn Hodges

Jan 18 81



KERRY VON ERICH

vs.

GINO HERNANDEZ



Gino Hernandez came to the ring looking for revenge and hoping for the return of "his" American heavyweight belt in his return match with new titleholder Kerry Von Erich. Gino proceeded to take advantage (or so he thought) by jumping Von Erich before the bell. But Kerry was stunned only briefly. He recovered to show his fans the same courage and ability that enabled him to win the title several weeks ago. A missed maneuver by Hernandez gave Kerry the opening he needed to defeat Gino. By winning, Kerry Von Erich cemented his claim as American heavyweight champion.

GREENSBORO, NC

By Horace Terry Jr.



BLACKJACK MULLIGAN

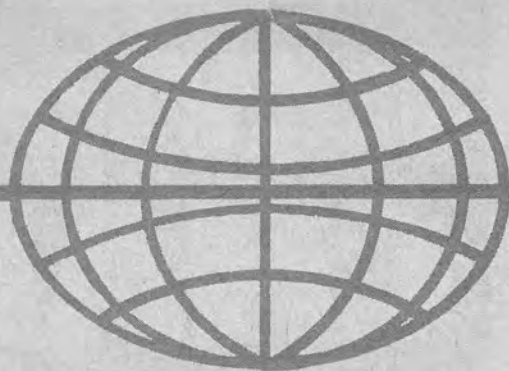
vs.

BOB DUNCUM



It was a battle of giants as Blackjack Mulligan tangled with Big Bobby Duncum before a capacity crowd at the Coliseum. Duncum controlled the tempo of the match with illegal tactics which kept the 6-7 Mulligan constantly on the defensive. For a while, it looked like a romp for Duncum. But little by little, Mulligan came on until he began to battle Duncum evenly. It wasn't long after that that the match swung in Blackjack's favor. Only a last-ditch, incredibly illegal tactic by Duncum saved him from being pinned. Fortunately, the referee saw what happened and disqualified Duncum.

WRESTLING CAPITALS



NEW ORLEANS, LA

By Gary Autin

Jan 26 81



JUNKYARD DOG

vs.

MASKED GRAPPLER



The Masked Grappler put his North American heavyweight title on the line against Junkyard Dog. The match was an even battle most of the way through. Then Dog began to dominate and was about to put Grappler away when Super Destroyer, wearing one of Grappler's masks, charged into the ring and attacked Dog from behind. With S.D. holding Dog, Grappler loaded up his boot and kicked Dog in the small of the back. But it's not the size of the dog in the fight, it's the size of the fight in the dog. Junkyard Dog came back to take control, knocking the real Grappler through the ropes. Dog then pinned the "other" Masked Grappler and was awarded the title.

ORLANDO, FL

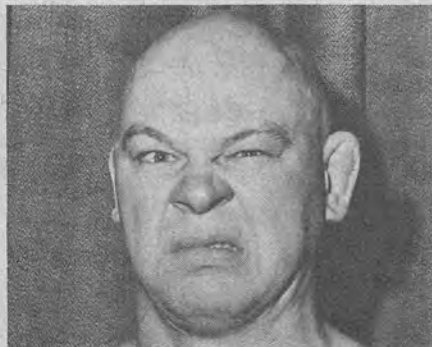
By Tim Finger



DUSTY RHODES

vs.

BARON VON RASCHKE



Dusty Rhodes met the German strongman Baron Von Raschke in a special Bounty Match. Dusty controlled the match until Raschke applied the clawhold. Dusty managed to crawl to the ropes, but the Baron would not release the hold. Manny Fernandez had to be summoned to force Raschke to release the hold. The referee gave Rhodes the bout via disqualification. **OTHER BOUTS:** The Manny Fernandez vs. Dick Murdoch brawl was stopped when the referee disqualified both men for excessive rulebreaking... Bobby Jagers and R.T. Tyler stopped Barry Windham and Scott McGhee... Bobo Brazil was too strong for Nikolai Volkoff... Mike Graham edged Hiro Matsuda.

BOSTON, MA

By Kevin McCarthy



BRUNO SAMMARTINO

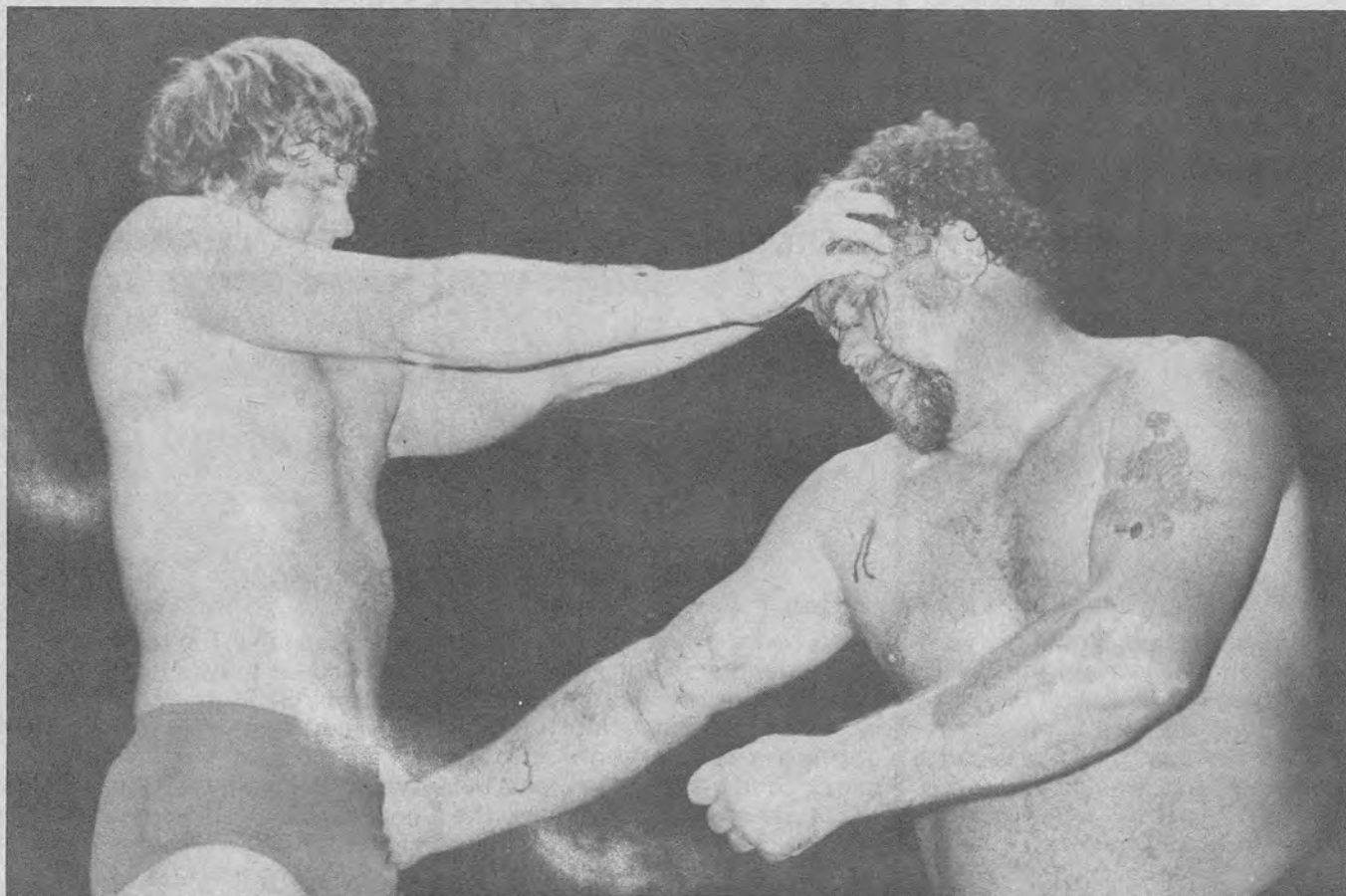
vs.

STAN HANSEN



The Legend met The Lariat in one of the wildest brawls on record at Boston Garden. Sammartino shocked everyone by attacking Hansen before the opening bell. When the match officially got underway, Bruno was still in charge, using forearm smashes, kneelifts, and armwhips to weaken the big man from Texas. It looked as though Sammartino was well on his way to certain victory. But the tables turned when Hansen "loaded" the Lariat armband with a weapon, whipped Bruno into the ropes and caught him on the neck on the rebound. The impact knocked Bruno out of the ring where he was counted out.

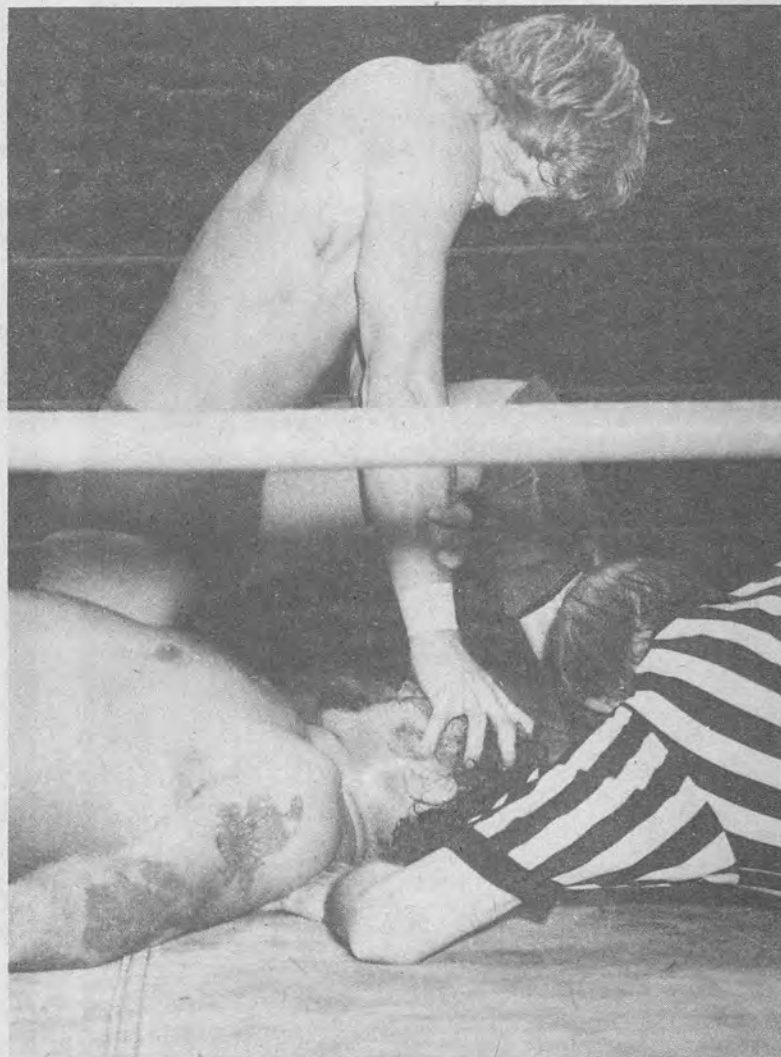
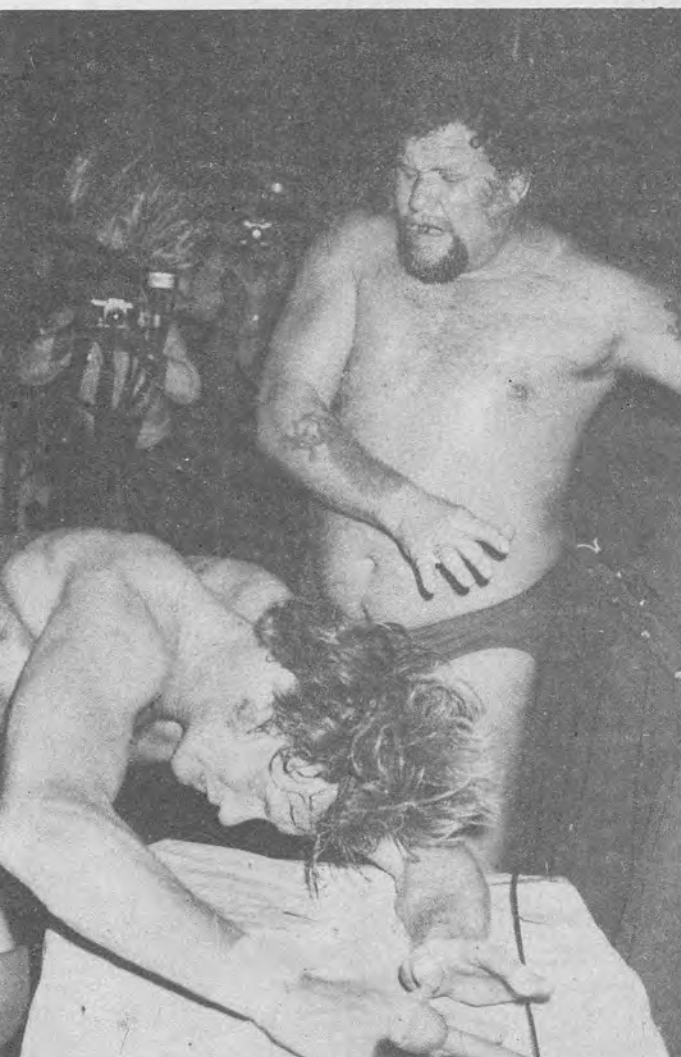
DAVID VON ERICH CHALLENGES HARLEY RACE *For The NWA Title*

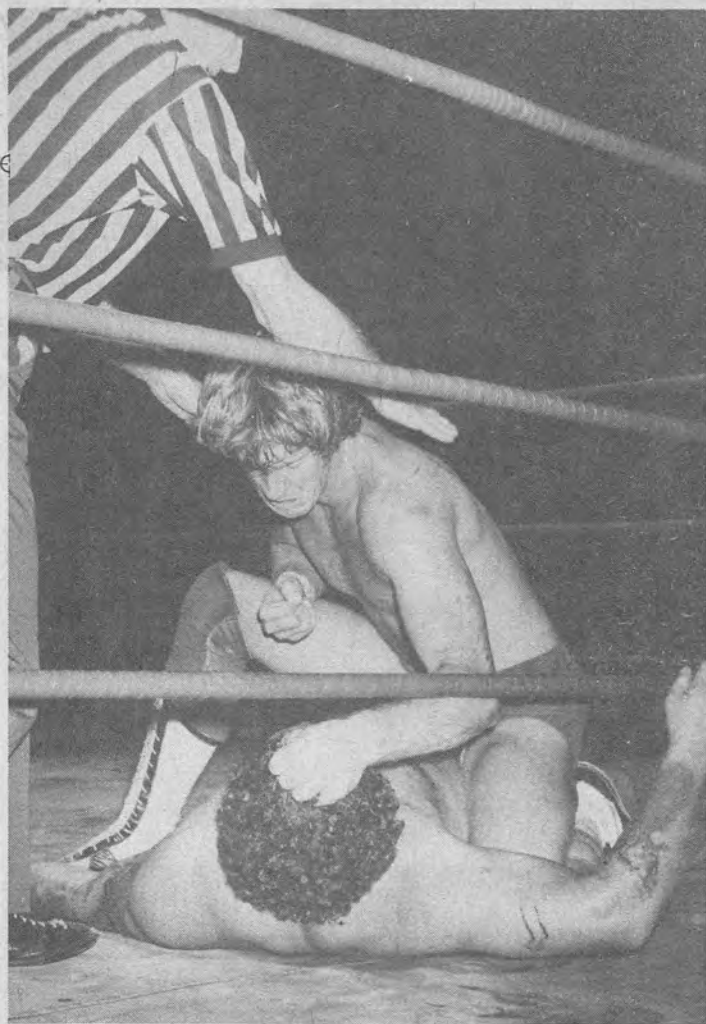


They wrestled with the savagery of two atomic hurricanes. After Harley Race defended his NWA title against David Von Erich, most observers swore it was the greatest match they had ever witnessed. And **INSIDE WRESTLING** proudly puts you into a ringside seat for all the action

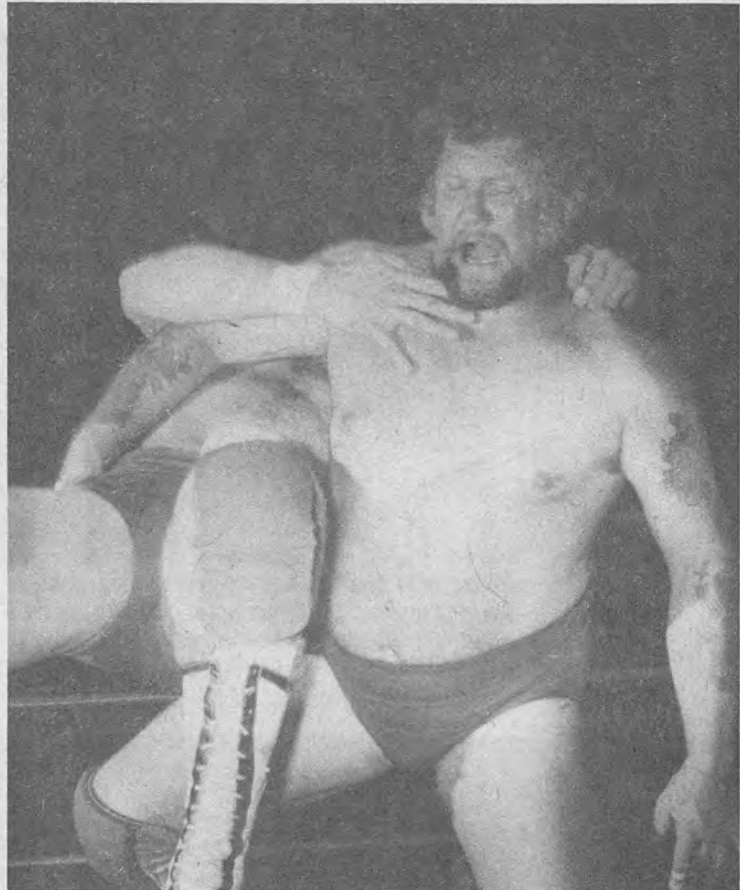


Above left: Von Erich grabs Race's hair in both hands, desperately trying to set the NWA champion up for his brain claw. Above right: Race maneuvers out of Von Erich's piledriver attempt. Below left: Race takes the advantage as the brawl strays from the ring. Below right: Finally, Von Erich applies the claw, but Race cleverly slides his arm under the rope, forcing David to release.

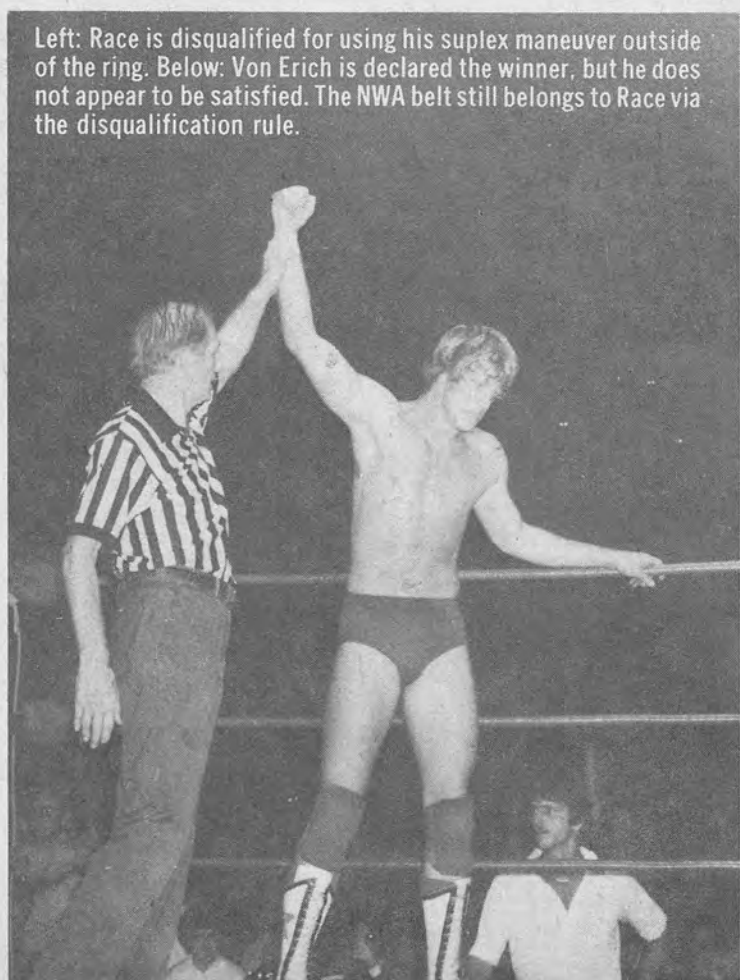




Left: Despite the referee's wishes, an enraged Von Erich fires his clenched fight fist at an exposed Race. Below: The champion, in full control for the first time, paralyzes Von Erich with an over-the-knee backbreaker.



Left: Race is disqualified for using his suplex maneuver outside of the ring. Below: Von Erich is declared the winner, but he does not appear to be satisfied. The NWA belt still belongs to Race via the disqualification rule.

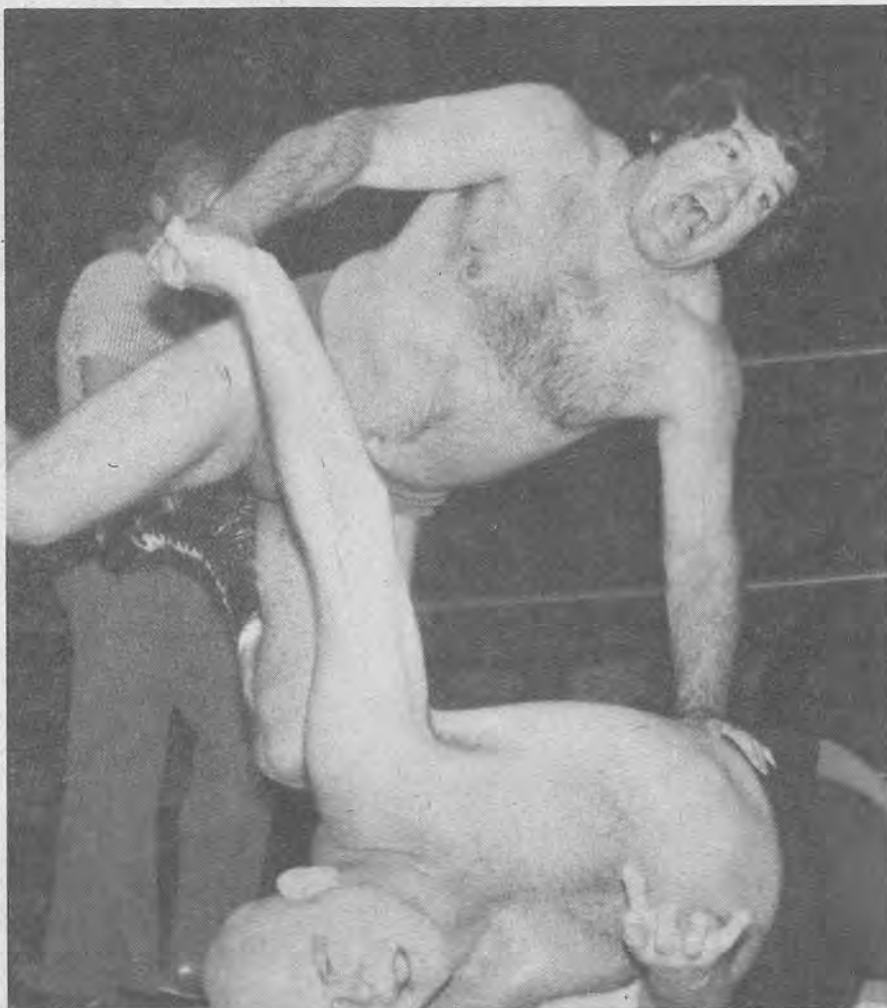


INSIDE WRESTLING

58

capsule profile

PAUL JONES



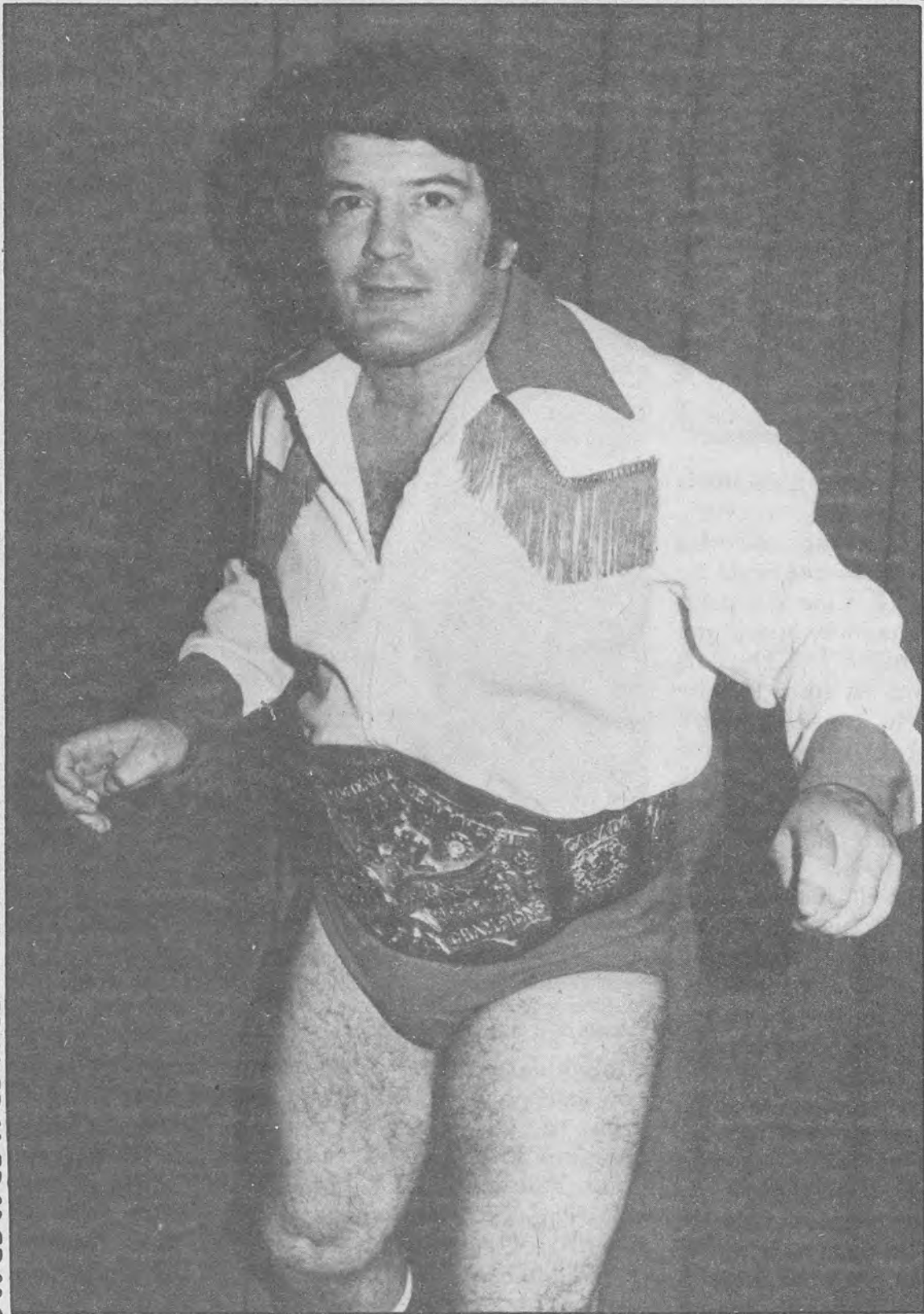
Paul Jones is once again determined to use his tremendous wrestling skills against the sport's rulebreakers. During his time as a rulebreaker, Jones teamed with Baron Von Raschke to take the Mid-Atlantic tag team championship. Now, he deals with Von Raschke on a different level (above).

ONCE AN HONORED fan favorite, recently turned rulebreaker and even more recently returned to his original style (*"I went away for awhile, lost in my own confusion"*)... The fans have forgiven him, but he has yet to forgive himself (*"I have to constantly prove I mean what I say"*)... Back in the Mid-Atlantic area, he hopes to win the NWA title (*"This is where I have to prove myself most"*)... Throughout his career, he has found himself embroiled in feuds (*"My temper is my worst enemy"*)... He has won many top regional titles (*"Each championship is important because it means so much to the fans"*)... He has long been a top tag team partner (*"To be a good tag team partner, you have to accept the team is more important than the individual"*)... The worst night in his life was when he turned rulebreaker and attacked Rick Steamboat (*"I've gone over it 100 times and still*

don't understand it")... He now feels obligated to rid the area of ferocious rulebreakers Roddy Piper and Greg Valentine (*"If I can make the Mid-Atlantic area famous for scientific wrestling, I can make peace with my past and myself"*)... He is a master technician and perfectionist (*"If you want to do something, do it right"*)... He is renown as one of the

most courageous grapplers in the sport (*"An injury hurts for a little while, but an act of cowardice hurts forever"*)... In Japan, he is one of the favorite American wrestlers (*"It's a thrill to be cheered halfway round the world"*)... Most of all, he is determined to keep the fans' love (*"When you're a rulebreaker, nobody likes you, least of all yourself."*) □

CAPSULE PROFILE PIN-UP



PAUL JONES

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Each day, out of the thousands of letters we receive, hundreds of them are from fans asking the whereabouts of their favorite wrestler. In this special column, we will try to answer the questions you ask the most!

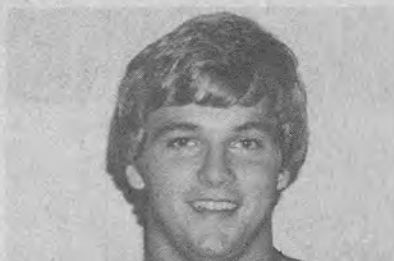


ROBERT FULLER

Popular Robert Fuller has formed a formidable tag team with young superstar Ted DiBiase in Georgia. Fuller makes no bones about his personal target: The Fabulous Freebirds. Fuller wants nothing more than to clip the wings of Michael Hayes, Terry Gordy, and Buddy Roberts and send them spiralling to the ground.

EDDIE GILBERT

Gilbert is on an astonishing winning streak in Memphis. Rulebreaker after rulebreaker collapse before this youthful onslaught. Fans take to young Gilbert and many cynical ringside observers have gone out on a limb to predict future greatness for this poised and talented young man.

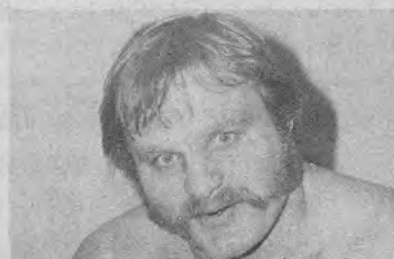


SWEET BROWN SUGAR

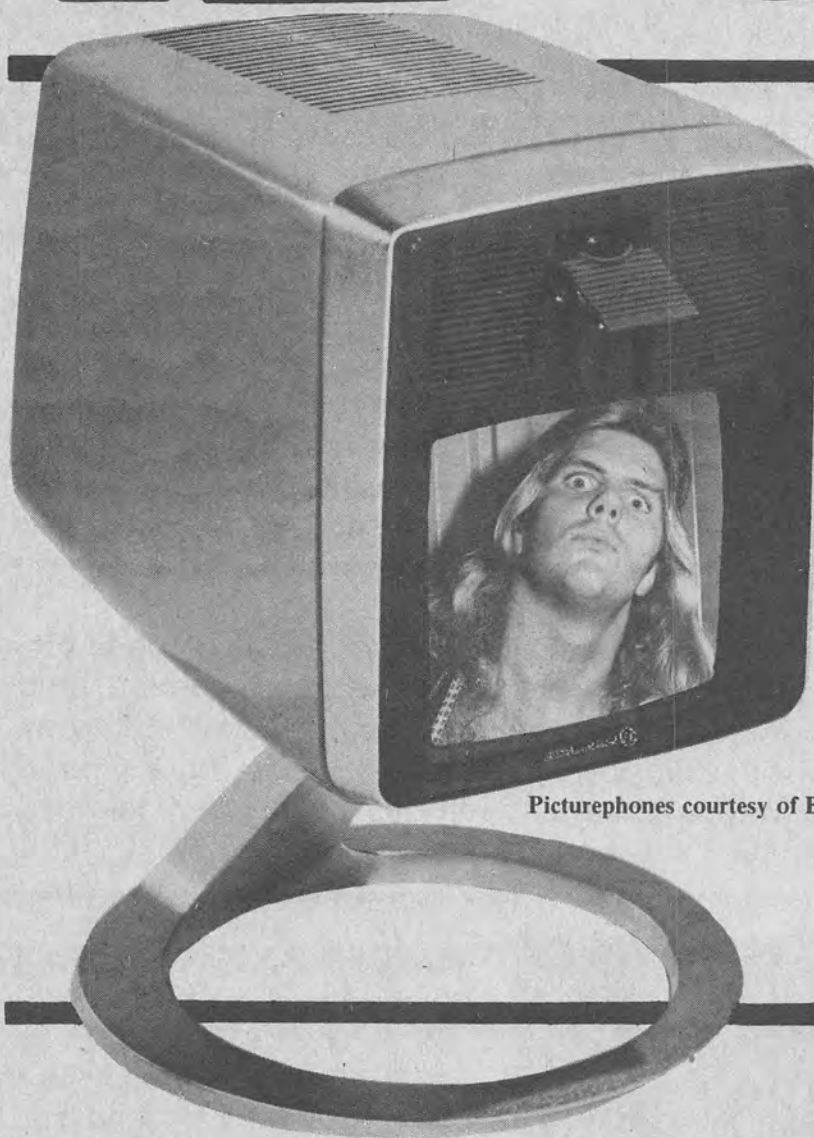
Once again, Sweet Brown Sugar returns to Florida, scene of many earlier triumphs. And some disappointments, as well. Yet the flamboyant masked man is determined to erase the past and set his sights on the Southern heavyweight crown currently held by Dick Slater.

OLE ANDERSON

Ole and Gene Anderson have re-united in the Mid-Atlantic area. Their present plans call for Gene to manage the team in a series of specially selected matches aimed at wresting the NWA tag team title from Paul Jones and Masked Superstar. Fans may recall Jimmy Snuka and Ray Stevens lost the title to the current champions. And remember who managed Snuka and Stevens?



ONE O



Picturephones courtesy of Bell Telephone

(Generally loud-mouthed rule-breakers find few willing to agree with their arrogant pronouncements. But the Fabulous Freebirds are in a different situation. The Georgia tag team champions have revolutionized wrestling. Still, some in Georgia are unimpressed, if not outright dismayed. Some in Georgia do not view The Freebirds as revolutionaries. More like wildeyed anarchists bent on destroying the very foundation, if not the entire sport of professional wrestling. Ted DiBiase is such a

ferocious foe of The Freebirds. Countering DiBiase's angry charges is Michael Hayes, a member of The Fabulous Freebirds.)

Every month the telephone wires will crackle as two top grapplers rage and argue. We'll print the unedited transcript of their conversations, giving the fans a privileged glimpse at wrestlers which can be found nowhere else

W ONE



Simulated photos



MICHAEL HAYES:

Glory be, it's Ted DiBiase. Oh my, Mr. DiBiase, can I have your autograph?

TED DiBIASE:

Why don't you stifle your sarcasm, Hayes?

MH: Just 'cause I wanted your little autograph? Won't take long for you to make your mark.

TD: Can't you ever be nice?

MH: I'm always nice, turkey-brain. You're just so damn stupid, you don't know what bein' nice is all about.

TD: You got a big mouth, Hayes.

MH: Someone gotta make up for your little mind.

TD: If you only had the guts to match your mouth.

MH: Hey, watch it now, you're

steppin' on sacred ground right there.

TD: Oh, come on, Hayes. When was the last time you fought in a match?

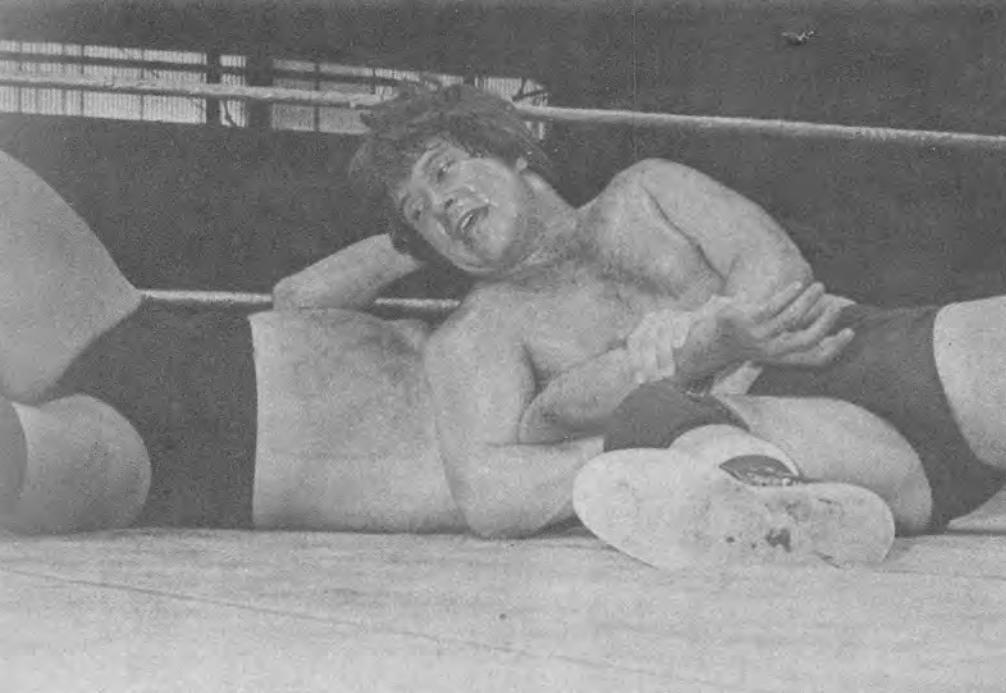
MH: I always fight, turkey.

TD: You hide outside the ring.

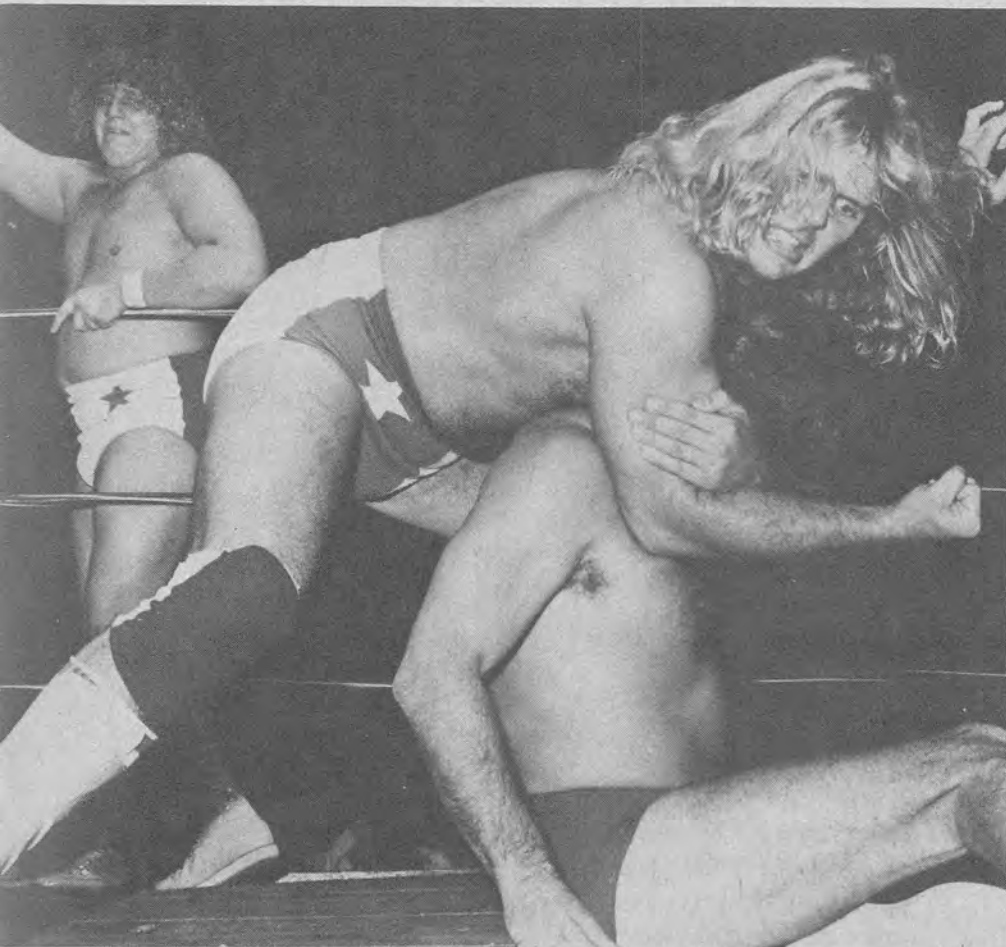
MH: Now that just shows your lame ignorance, fool. I like to be the guiding light, the scout, the seer around the ring. You couldn't understand this 'cause you got the brain of a wing-tipped shoe, but there is much more to wrestlin' than just gettin' your head rapped every night, somethin' you do know about.

TD: Oh, more of your revolutionary garbage, huh?

MH: You're just jealous, DiBiase, 'cause me and my main men Buddy and Terry have



Ted DiBiase (maintaining an advantage, above) is in training with Robert Fuller to challenge The Freebirds, provided the NWA lets the corporation hold onto its Georgia championship. Michael Hayes (choking Jack Brisco, below) does not think DiBiase and Fuller are worthy challengers.



changed and restyled and redone the whole way of wrestlin'. We have brought in a new era, combinin' the mystics and the philosophy and the arts and the sciences

and the beyond into a giant pot of genius and greatness that's called The Fabulous Freebirds, turkey.

TD: You guys haven't revolutionized anything, Hayes.

All you've done is get around the rules and . . .

MH: Rules are made by men and men can change 'em when they want.

TD: And you're a man? Only reason you need three of you is that maybe, just maybe, combining three of you gets half a man. And that's a big maybe.

MH: You just don't understand. That's why you can't handle, can't get into, can't grasp the immensity of what the Fabulous Freebirds mean to wrestling, mean to earth, to the whole galaxy. We are showin' a different way of livin', turkey. You can't understand and it's well and good we know that so we don't waste any energy tryin' to save your hide when the day of reckoning comes along. Those that don't have the guts to last will just fall down and die and it kinda sounds like DiBiase and Fuller Brush Man are gonna be those two.

TD: Don't go dumping on Robert. But then that's your style, isn't it, Hayes? You only dump long-distance. If Fuller were right in front of you, you'd run around like a decapitated chicken or else you know what Fuller would do to you.

MH: Oh my, I'm sooooo scared.

TD: You should be.

MH: Oh my, what are you boys gonna do to us? You gonna hit us? Oh, I must run and warn Terry and Buddy so they can prepare. I don't want them gettin' hurt.

TD: You better practice your sarcasm, Hayes, because you're going to discover that your mouth will be all that's left when me and Robert finish with you.

MH: Oh me oh my, I'm so scared. I must say adieu because I'm shaking. □

BEHIND THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR

(Continued from Page 10)

Bruno Jr. unprepared. He rushes at his inexperienced opponent while his back is turned. Bruno Jr. wheels around, hooks his right arm around Hanson's left arm, and flings him across the ring.

Bruno Sr. shakes his head. He is apparently annoyed that his son committed the error of turning his back.

Hanson appears to have injured his back. He is on his knees in the corner, begging Bruno Jr. to stay away. Bruno approaches cautiously as the crowd screams, "Possum, possum!" Bruno is within three feet of his opponent and looks very confused. Hanson is begging, the crowd is hysterical, and Bruno hesitates.

Swede Hanson seizes his opportunity. As Bruno Jr. turns toward the crowd, Hanson grabs his leg and yanks him to the canvas.

Bruno Sr. shrugs his shoulders.

Hanson is in control now. He drapes Bruno Jr.'s leg across the bottom rope, and stomps his helpless opponent's knee. Hanson then brings Bruno to his feet, lifts him in the air, and slams him to the mat. Bruno Jr. arches his back from the pain.

So does Bruno Sr.

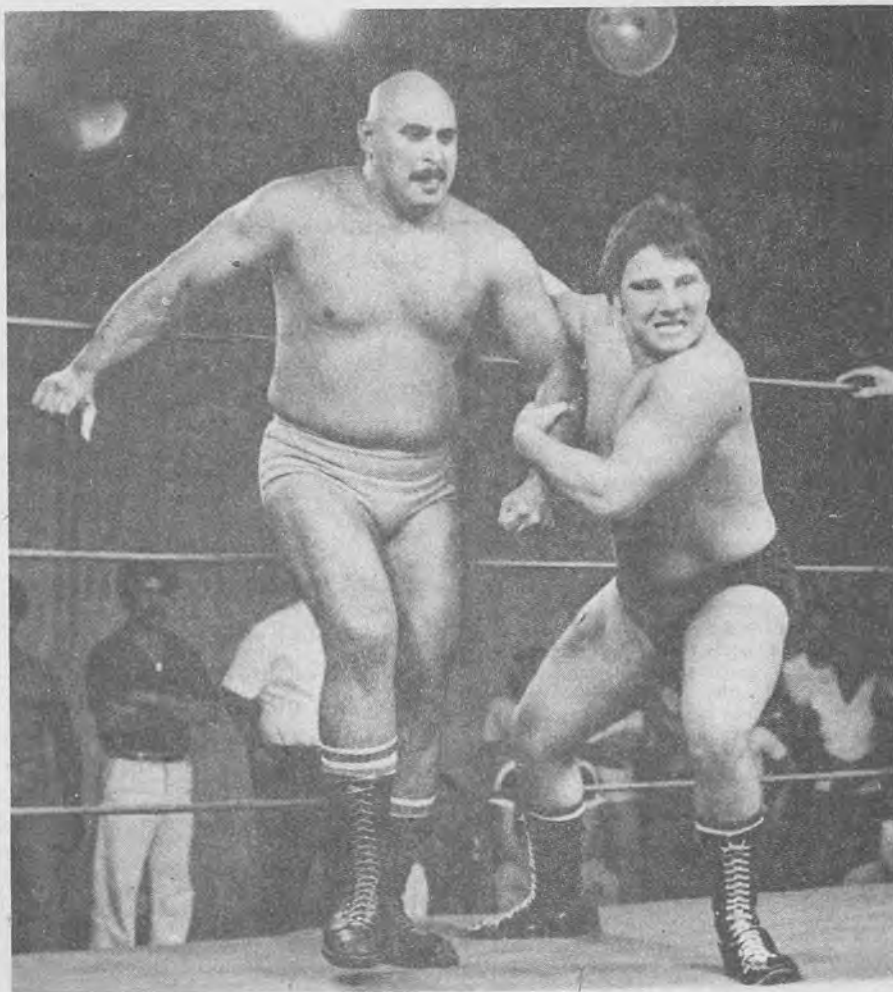
Once again, Hanson lifts Bruno Jr. to his feet. He proceeds to fling his opponent across the ring and into the ropes.

Bruno Sr. dips his shoulder in a defensive position.

His son does not. Hanson levels him with a shoulder block to the chest. Once again, the veteran Hanson raises Bruno Jr. to his feet and again directs him into the ropes.

Bruno Sr. smiles.

Bruno Jr. appears to be



Before Bruno Sammartino Jr. made his United States debut in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, he wrestled a series of preparatory matches in Puerto Rico. Above, Bruno whips the Mexican Angel across the ring.

headed for trouble as he bounds toward a confident Hanson, but at the last second, he dips his shoulder and sends Hanson stumbling backward and out of the ring.

Bruno Sr. knew his son was too smart to fall victim to the same maneuver two times in a row.

Bruno Jr. waits patiently for his opponent to reenter the ring. The referee begins his count. One . . . Two . . .

Bruno Sr.'s lips move as he counts to himself, Three . . . Four . . .

The referee's count reaches 10. Bruno Jr. leaps high into the air.

Bruno Sr. pounds his left fist into his right hand. But that was as emotional as he would get. He doesn't even smile for he senses his son trying to catch a glimpse of his reaction.

Bruno Sammartino Sr. wants his son to wrestle for himself and for nobody else. From his experience, he knows that is the only way to survive in this sport.

Bruno Jr. shakes hands with the referee, waves to the fans, and gallops back to the dressing room, just as he has seen his father do for years and years.

His father does not follow him. He stays for the rest of the card. □

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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page 14)

turn and go against Larry. Larry has always been one of my favorite wrestlers. Garea is a total disgrace to the sport of wrestling.

As for Tony Garea being friendly and good-looking, that's a joke. I'd rather look at Larry than stupid Garea and Bruno Sammartino put together. I thought I'd let you know, Dan Shocket, that I'm backing you 100 percent.

ROSE GUILLORY
New Orleans, LA

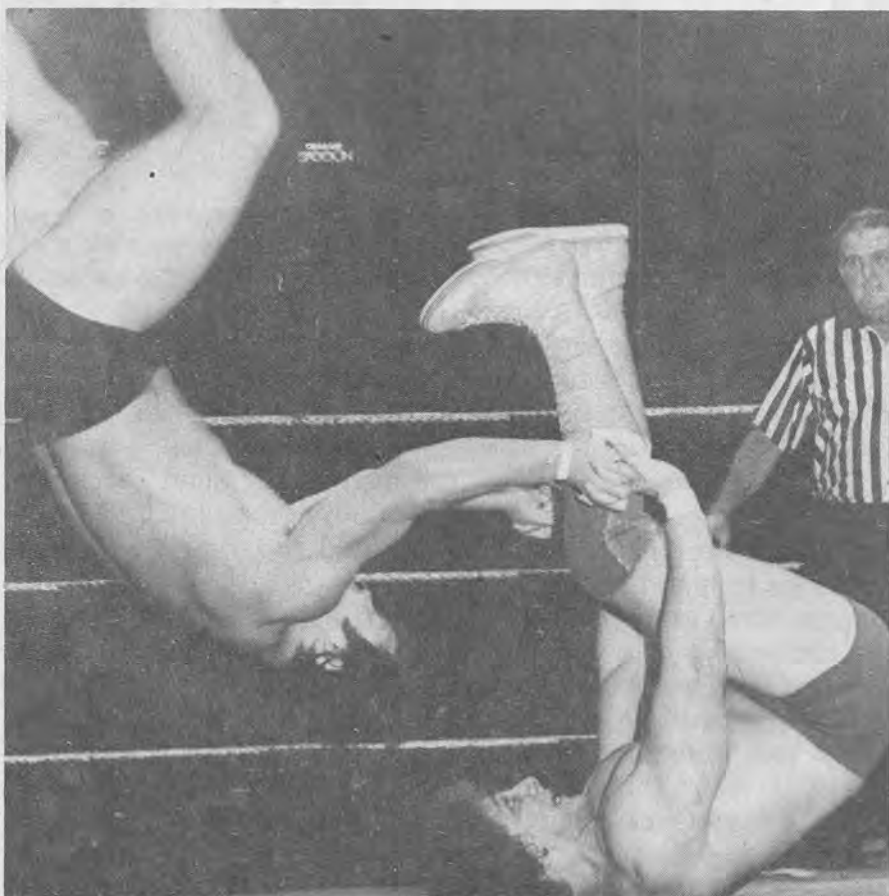
WRESTLING CLEANLINESS

Who ever said that it has to be a clean wrestler against a dirty wrestler all the time? Myself, along with a whole lot of my friends, are a little bit tired of

seeing rulebreakers force good scientific wrestlers into brawls all the time.

I'm not calling for an entire revamping of the sport, but I do have a suggestion. They have Brass Knuckles championships that crown the toughest guy in an area. Why don't they have a tournament with only scientific wrestlers to establish some kind of scientific wrestling champion? Could you imagine how exciting and fulfilling it would be to see a match in which any rule-breaking meant instant disqualification? All you would see is some of the greatest athletic confrontations of all time. How about it, fans, what do you think?

KEITH COMMANDER
Poughkeepsie, NY



Scientific wrestling, as witnessed at Madison Square Garden when Tatsumi Fujinami defended his WWF junior heavyweight championship against Don Diamond, is to reader Keith Commander's liking. Above, Diamond monkey-flips Fujinami.

SHOOT 'EM DOWN

All right, enough is enough! I don't know how The Freebirds ever got themselves corporate status, but it is high time the NWA stopped this practice right



The Freebirds, Buddy Roberts, Michael Hayes, and Terry Gordy, must have their corporate status challenged in the courts, writes Rodney Hagermeier. He feels the NWA risks a precedent allowing tag team corporations.

away. Allowing The Freebirds to chose two out of its three members to defend the Georgia tag team title is bad enough. But when they don't even have to tell their opponents which two they are going to use, their advantage is totally unfair.

From what I understand, The Freebirds have some pretty good lawyers behind them. Fine. I'm sure the NWA has some fair lawyers itself. Why isn't this case brought before a judge? I think the NWA fears this: If the case is brought before a judge and the NWA loses, a precedent will be set to allow any team, of any number of wrestlers it chooses to work with, to incorporate. So with this fear of losing, the NWA does nothing. And The Freebirds are given free reign to get away with murder. The time to act is now!

RODNEY HAGERMEIER
Macon, GA ☐

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THE INSIDER

(Continued from Page 18)



What did Dick Murdoch (armlocking Dusty Rhodes, above) feel he could gain by claiming a fan sawed off one of his fingers? Of course, it didn't happen. Could Bruiser Brodie be thinking of his post-match vanilla egg cream (below)?

this ugly rumor is a direct creation of the mind of a very sick man—Murdoch himself! A frantic man called this story in to a local Tampa newspaper. Unfortunately for Murdoch, the sports reporter who took the phone call was an avid wrestling fan and recognized Murdoch's voice.

Nice try, Dick, but do you really expect us to believe this one?

RUMOR: Bruiser Brodie has created a religious cult based in Dallas called The Knights of the Perfect Egg Cream. Brodie reportedly heads the group of about 25, who search the state seeking the perfect vanilla egg cream. "When we find it, we will be one with the almighty," Brodie said.

FACT: Okay there, Brusier. Missing a few key cards, are



we? Sorry to report that this rumor is fact. Maybe Brodie should be put away. Or maybe they should do with him what they do with sick horses.

INJURY REPORT

FREDDIE BLASSIE is out of the hospital. Blassie claims ARNOLD SKOALAND and BOB BACKLUND put him there with a particularly savage attack in a parking lot. Young EDDIE GILBERT, double-teamed by ROGER KIRBY and GUY MITCHELL, suffered a broken ankle. And finally, mammoth veteran HAYSTACKS CALHOUN, told to



Fred Blassie has recovered from wounds he allegedly received from an assault by Bob Backlund and Arnold Skoaland. He vows revenge.



Legendary Haystacks Calhoun takes a time-out during a match. His personal physician feels he would be more energetic if he shed a few pounds.

lose weight by his personal physician, Dr. Myron Kchn (yes, Kchn), passed out after spending one hour in a sauna bath. "Phew," was all old Stacks had to say.

That's all for now. Catch you later. ☐

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BOBO BRAZIL

(Continued from Page 31)

told friends, "When a friend can't defend his own honor, you have to defend it for him. If you don't, you're not worthy of being his friend. Dusty would do the same for me."



When Bobo entered the arena, he saw Murdoch standing in the ring corner. For this match, Dick had trained long and hard. He was a superbly conditioned athlete. Every muscle, every nerve was tensed to destroy. Ringsiders heard Bobo mutter, "No one said it would be easy."

It was anything but easy. Murdoch was intent on making somebody suffer. From the very first, Bobo was trapped on the defensive. Murdoch was a blur of crushing, punishing maneuvers. Within the first few minutes, Bobo took an extraordinary amount of punishment.

A lesser man would have leaped from the ring and sought the sanctity of the dressing room. Bobo doesn't know how to quit.

Though not scheduled to compete, Brazil felt that Dusty Rhodes' honor must be protected. At times, it appeared that he could come back and defeat Murdoch (above and below). Murdoch, who fires away with his closed fist (opposite right), was finally disqualified by the referee.



Using veteran cunning and a body that equals any challenge, he continued to battle. It was a splendid display of wrestling courage. There were moments when it appeared Bobo might actually take control of the match. Unhappily, they were only moments.

Murdoch dominated most of the action. Primed for the match of his life, he would not be denied. His maneuvers were brutal and often illegal. He was warned time and again. Murdoch ignored the official and continued his cruel battering. It was clear he wasn't interested in winning. He wanted to punish.



Finally, the referee could tolerate no more. He disqualified Murdoch and awarded the victory to Bobo. Dick didn't care. He had proven he could savage the best. Record books are for historians. Athletes live in the present.

Afterwards, everyone admired Bobo's courage and loyalty. He had defended a friend's honor. He had survived an ordeal with honor and integrity.

Somewhere, Dusty Rhodes knew he now has a debt of honor he must repay. ☐

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Hussein Arab • Ivan Koloff

(Continued from Page 35)

In contrast, Arab was ruthlessly cold. He moved with deliberate control, as if struggling to keep himself calm. All his energy, all his power was directed to the coming confrontation. When his fury would be unleashed, there would be no controlling it.

Finally, the moment of truth arrived. These two merciless athletes marched into the arena. It seemed an eternity as they waited through the introductions. When the bell sounded, both men exploded from their corners.



With blood pouring out of his left arm, Koloff sinks his fangs into Arab's head, evening up the blood flow. Many fans turned away from the horrible sight.

From the first, there was a brutal beauty about the confrontation. This was no reckless brawl. These men used all their professional abilities to inflict pain. They knew exactly what they were doing. They also knew exactly what they wanted to do.

It became clear both men figured this to be a long battle. They used their power intelligently. Neither wanted to burn out early, leaving himself the helpless prey of the other. In a way only the bitterest enemies can, they respected each other.

Within three minutes, a hideous gash was slashed across Arab's forehead. Blood began to pour from the wound. With cruel efficiency, Koloff tried to make the wound wider. You could see the savage delight in Koloff's eyes as Arab's forehead turned a sickening scarlet.

That was only the beginning. Ignoring his own wound, Arab went on the attack. Using his teeth like an electric saw, Hussein bit into Koloff's left arm. Almost instantly, the bicep and forearm were stained red.

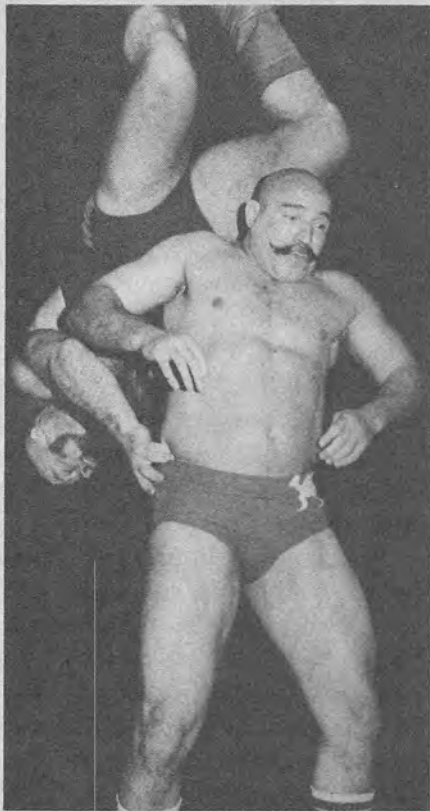
Koloff shrieked with a howl of anger and pain. Still, he continued to batter his foe with furious expertise. Arab countered with identical controlled ferocity. Blood splattered across the ring in a gory downpour.

For more than 20 minutes, these bleeding warriors waged their incredible war. They used legal and illegal tactics with sure savagery. It's impossible to detail any maneuver. One can only give a sense of the carnage.

It seemed impossible human beings could absorb so much punishment. The pace grew slower as weariness conquered aching muscles and joints. Yet, the men's eyes blazed with the same intensity. Their determination to destroy was as strong as ever.

Finally, the referee demanded the match be stopped. For a second, it seemed the two men would ignore the command to

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Arab sends Koloff over his back and down to the canvas (above). Koloff is in shock as manager Gene Anderson tends to his wounds (below). Ivan was brought to the hospital for repairs.



halt. Then they parted. Yet, as they left the arena, both knew this was only one of many battles. The war would be long and bloody.

Back in the dressing room, Koloff's manager, Gene Anderson, watched as the doctor dressed Ivan's wounds. "Arab's a maniac!" he screamed. "He must be stopped!" "Yes," Koloff agreed quietly. "And I shall stop him." ☐

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ON THE ROAD

(Continued from Page 8)

conversation, Nathan shook his head and turned a whiter shade of pale.

"Not yet," he would whisper and nod to the door. Or the window. Or the ceiling. Or floor. Talk about paranoia. After an hour of this, my nerves grew frazzled and my patience evaporated.

"Okay, T.G., what's going on?" I demanded, grabbing my denim jacket and preparing to leave. T.G. seized my shoulders. I could tell the strain wore on him. Tears welled up in his eyes. Tears of terror. I put my arm around him and sat us down on the couch. Several minutes passed as Nathan gathered himself to give me one shred of information that might shock the whole world.

"I saw The Sheik talking to Baron Von Raschke, a fat Germanic guy, and a gorgeous blonde," T.G. recalled. "And I pieced together The Sheik's visits to Florida and they're very weird. Only time he's down here is when Von Raschke is here."

Aha. And who did The Sheik wrestle down here?

"Bugsy McGraw," said T.G.

Why would The Sheik come down here to wrestle McGraw?

"I don't know," replied T.G.

I decided to leave Nathan, who seemed greatly relieved he'd discharged the information—and me.

At the arena, I decided to snoop around and see if any of the mysterious participants showed up. None did. Only The Sheik was there and, naturally, he refused to see me and even sent one of his "friends" out to escort me from the dressing room area.

While this information was shocking, further confusing the picture, I did want some hard evidence on my own. I had a friend at Detroit Bell who owed me a few favors. All I wanted was a record of

all, if any of The Sheik's long-distance phone calls.

In the meantime, I considered talking with McGraw to see if he could illuminate Sheik's reasons for infrequently coming to Florida, and only when Von Raschke was there. But I didn't want to alarm Bugsy. Before we started telling people about the plot, we feel we better know how far and deep it goes.

Within the hour, my friend called back. She said there was nothing unusual about his overseas calls, the usual Sheik calls to the Mideast. Casually, I asked where in the Mideast. She said Saudi Arabia. I held my breath: The Sheik is from, and his family still lives, in Syria. Then who was he calling in . . .

"Twenty-six calls to this one number in Washington," her voice chilled me. I asked her to repeat that location. Again she said it. Washington. Washington, D.C. Home of the Lincoln Memorial. RFK Stadium. Library of Congress. Smithsonian.

The whole blasted United States Government.

I pressed her. She refused, saying she'd lose her job, she'd gone too far already. I pleaded with her, begging she give me the number. She wouldn't budge, wouldn't waver a millimeter though I tried every exhortation available a married man.

I couldn't tell her why I needed it. But I could play to her patriotism. That worked. She understood the dimensions, if not the specifics. So she told me where those 26 phone calls had gone.

And my blood turned ice-cold. If true, the conspiracy was far more dangerous than anyone ever could have imagined.

I took the first plane to Washington, fearing what I might find. □

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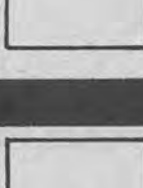
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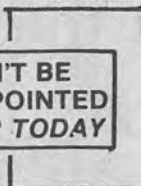
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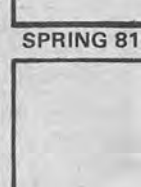
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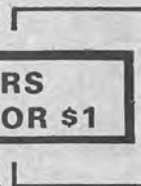
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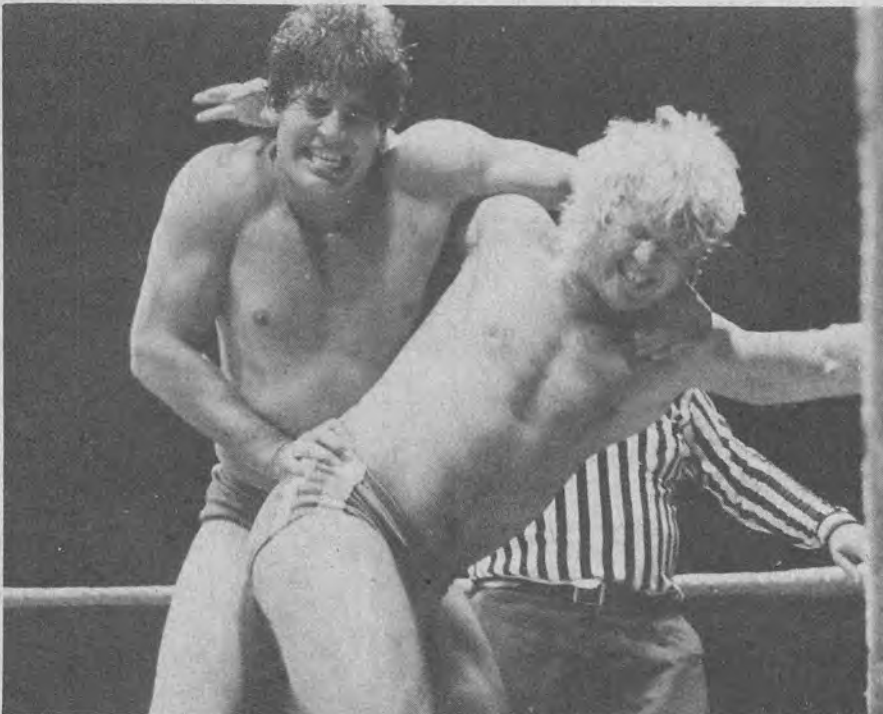
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SANTANA & BRAVO

(Continued from Page 37)



Neither Bravo or Santana really want Blackwell; they're just showing what teamwork is all about (above). Tito traps Steve Regal in his abdominal stretch (below). Santana and Bravo admit their attack lacks diversity.



declared. "We thought that would work in our favor, but it didn't. I guess opposites attract for a reason. We have no one to blame but ourselves. Everyone said it couldn't work. Sometimes, everyone is right."

For the first time all evening, Tito smiled. He recalled how their friends urged them not to form a tag team. Conventional wrestling wisdom says the best tag teams consist of different

types of wrestlers. One brings speed, the other has strength. Two different assets combine into a near perfect whole.

Dino and Tito ignored that rule. Both men wrestle with similar styles, similar strengths. They also have similar weaknesses. Opponents preparing for them had it easy. A good defense against Tito was a good defense against Dino. The Bravo-Santana tag team never

achieved the greatness needed to become AWA champions.

That night, pacing in the motel room, Dino thought back to the days when he did share a tag team title. His partner was Ivan Putski. Where Tito supplied the speed and agility, Ivan supplied the brute force. Together, they were a splendid combination. Opposites in style, they formed a perfect whole and captured the WWF tag team title.

"You're no Ivan Putski," Tito said and they both laughed.

"It was a good try," Dino said after awhile.

"A damn good try," Tito agreed.

"This doesn't have to be the end of it," Dino continued, "we can still try to beat the odds. Every so often, when we feel adventurous, we can be a tag team again. It's just that we also have to go our separate ways."

"When I first started," Tito mused, "a veteran came up to me and said, 'You're a professional now. You do what you must, not what you want.' I never really understood that until tonight. As professionals, we have to go on to other things. As friends, we can get together every so often, try our luck. But only every so often."

All of a sudden, Dino started to laugh uproariously. After a second of confusion, Tito joined him. Released from their tension, assured their troubles wouldn't ruin their friendship, the two men were overcome with glee.

When he could catch his breath, Dino announced, "Let's get a real cup of coffee!"

"It's the middle of the night!"

"It's an adventure!"

With that, the two friends embarked on an adventure, laughing like a couple of kids. They might not be steady partners, but they were fast friends. □

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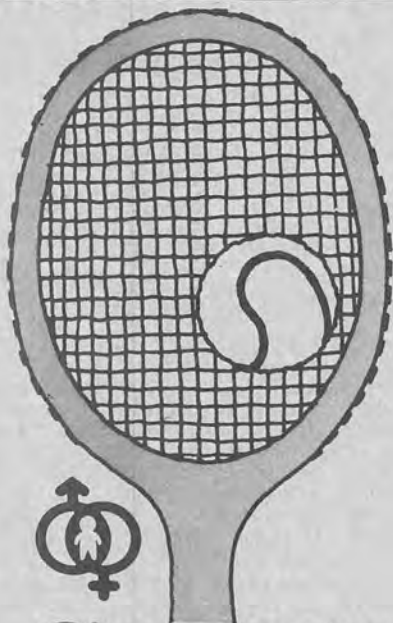
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BODYSLAMS & PINFALLS

(Continued from Page 12)

allegiance is to the sport.

Yet, when forced to defend their backgrounds, the men lashed back. They lack the patience to explain their beliefs. When attacked, they simply counter-attacked. It must be admitted both men like to see other people get upset.

Both men underestimated the pressures their rantings would cause. They found themselves constantly

to combat forces neither man really understood, they wound up combatting each other. Two natural friends have become bitter enemies.

The situation is sad for many reasons. First, each man is capable of permanently injuring the other. Wrestling can't afford to lose either of these great mat stars. More importantly, wrestling is deprived of the majesty these two men created as a tag team. Those who saw them in their glory will never forget that amazing combination of raw strength and controlled skill. Being deprived of that greatness is wrestling's great loss.

Many times during the match I wanted to see it stopped. It was obscene that two men who belonged together should be destroying each other. I only rooted for the clock to hurry and end the match. It should never have begun and it seemed to last forever.

Now, the feud can only be settled by more and more bloodbaths. Knowing both men, I realize their rage will not be satisfied until one enjoys total victory. That means either Koloff or Arab will probably not wrestle again after this feud is finished.

I tried to convince Koloff's manager, Gene Anderson, to take Ivan to another area. He looked at me as if I was crazy.



Hussein Arab awaits medical attention following his war with Ivan Koloff. With no end in sight to this feud, there is much blood to be spilled.

under attack. At first, they defended each other as well as themselves. Then, as the assaults became more withering, they defended only themselves. To do that, they had to insult the other. They knew no other way.

That's what brought on the insults, the taunts, the eventual challenge. Trying



Ivan Koloff and manager Gene Anderson discuss their plan of attack. Many fans hope that Koloff and Arab can eliminate each other from the sport.

"Ivan wouldn't stand for it!" Anderson exclaimed in anguish and rage. "He demands revenge! He'll get revenge! There can be no other solution."

When he calmed down, Gene confided, "Don't you think I want this thing stopped? It's tearing me apart. I had the greatest tag team in the world. Now I have a great wrestler in a dangerous feud. The whole thing could be settled if only one of them would say, 'You're right from your side and I'm right from mine.' But you might as well ask an ant to lift Dusty Rhodes. It'll never happen. Both men let their power do their talking.

"Sure it's a tragedy. But I've been in wrestling a long time. You get used to tragedy. Sometimes, I think tragedy is inescapable. Other times, I tell myself it's dangerous to think." ☐

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• MAKE TIME RUN BACKWARD OR FORWARD!—A



MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D., is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

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**David Fairbrother—Dave's Locksmith Service
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